

# OX HARDY

BLEWITT SPRINGS

## 1891 ANCESTOR VINE SHIRAZ 2021

### BACKGROUND

Planted in 1891, the last remaining 2.54ha block of Ancestor Vines stand proudly at the Upper Tintara Vineyard and still produce exceptional high-quality fruit. Referred to by the family as 'Bob's selection' after Ox's father, cuttings from these grandfather vines have been borrowed by neighbours over time, to plant some of the most celebrated vineyards in the district. Unlike other vines of similar longevity, they still appear youthful and barely half their age to the naked eye. They also produce yields of a much younger and healthier vine.

### 2021 VINTAGE & WINEMAKING

The 2021 vintage in Blewitt Springs was exceptional. Average winter rains were followed by a wet spring before very dry, lovely mild weather condition through the summer months.

The 1891 Ancestor Vines were hand picked on the 3rd of March 2021, and the beautiful cool conditions resulted in wonderful fruit.

Fermented in 2 tonne open fermenters, the 2021 Ancestor Vine Shiraz spent two weeks on skins before pressing directly to French oak, one new d'Aquitane and two older Francois Freres hogsheads. The wine spent eighteen months in barrel before being bottled on 5th of April 2023.

A wonderfully full flavoured vintage, one of the finest in memory.

**WINEMAKER:** Andrew Hardy

**APPELLATION:** Blewitt Springs

**VARIETY:** Shiraz 100%

**COLOUR:** Dark with ruby and purple hue

**AROMA:** Blueberry and dark cherry, with a hint of spice

**PALATE:** Red fruits continue on the palate, with a savoury tannin structure and a graceful finish. Elegant and fine.

**ANALYSIS:** Alc 14% TA 6.3g/L pH 3.55

