

# HAYCUTTERS

## SHIRAZ

2019  
McLAREN VALE

### McLAREN VALE

This region has a Mediterranean climate with wet winters, dry summers and plenty of sunshine. The proximity to the St. Vincent Gulf, coincidentally named after the patron saint of winemakers, benefits fruit quality, with warmer spring and autumn conditions and cooler summers. McLaren Vale is renowned as a premium wine region of great beauty that consistently produces high quality, richly flavoured wines.

### DAVEY ESTATE VINEYARD

The Davey Estate Vineyard is located in Whites Valley, at the southern end of the acclaimed McLaren Vale wine region. Brothers Kym and John Davey planted their vineyard on land that the family has owned since 1959. The site is dedicated to producing high quality, intensely coloured and flavoured grapes using innovative canopy management and progressive viticultural techniques.

The name "Haycutters" refers to the vineyard block that was used to grow hay for their Grandfather's dairy herd. The high calcium soil that was excellent for raising strong, young heifers is also ideal for growing vines.

### VINTAGE NOTE

A dry winter required early strategic supplementary irrigation on the Davey Estate to assist with bud burst and early canopy growth. Flowering and berry set were good and crops appeared slightly above average. A hail event and strong winds on the 21st of November damaged newly formed bunches particularly on the western side of vines. Damaged bunches shriveled off and vines recovered but crop levels were reduced. Warm dry weather continued through the season resulting in low disease pressure.

Summer was generally hot with a record high of 46.6°C occurring. Vines weathered this surprisingly well with minimal damage to fruit. Although on average yields were down, quality was good with strong varietal flavours and structural elements. Gentle working of the skins in the winery tempered the naturally high fruit tannins of the vintage.

Harvest commenced in the second week of February with Pinot Noir for Rosé and by the end of the month the Tempranillo and early Shiraz for red was fermenting. Picking finished on the 29th of March with a young Touriga Nacional block.

### TASTING NOTE FROM JOHN DAVEY, WINEMAKER

Deep magenta in colour. Primary aromas of blackberry and blueberry are highlighted with nuances of milk chocolate, espresso and roasted nut. The blackberry and dark cherry flavours are restrained and focused by fine tannins and a hint of cedary oak.

### VARIETY BLEND

100% Shiraz

### BOTTLING

Alcohol: 14.2%

TA: 6.5 g/L

pH: 3.61

