

# Terre à Terre Crayères Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2019

The Crayères Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2019 is our second vintage of this classic Australian blend following the long-established tradition of Cabernet Shiraz fine Australian wines — and the eighth vintage of our Cabernet Sauvignon dominant release. The moderately warm and dry 2019 vintage provided ideal conditions for Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz ripening. The wine is eminently Australian, with fruit forward characters, firm tannins and velvety texture, superbly balanced palate structure, and a savoury finish.

#### Harvest date:

Shiraz hand harvested on the  $19^{th}$  and  $20^{th}$  of March 2019, Cabernet Franc hand harvested on the  $26^{th}$  of March 2019, Cabernet Sauvignon hand harvested on the  $3^{rd}$  and 4th of April 2019.

# **Vineyard description:**

The Crayères vineyard is located at the top of a north-south limestone ridge in Wrattonbully, one of Australia's most exciting regions. This vineyard has been baptised the Crayères Vineyard after the chalk cellars in Xavier's region of birth in Champagne, France because of the natural limestone caves found underneath the vineyard. The clay rich Terra Rossa top-soil, characteristic of the area, promotes nutrient uptake while the underlying limestone is a reserve of moisture for the vines. The Cabernet Sauvignon was planted on rootstocks in 2004 using the Reynella and CW44 clones, at a relatively high density for the area (4,444 vines per hectare with 1.5m wide rows), which means more km² of canopy per hectare and better fruit exposure. The Shiraz and Cabernet Franc vines were planted in 2008 at the same density, using Australian clones on rootstocks. The fruiting wire is only 50cm above ground which provides extra ripeness for the vines in this cool climate region.

# **Vintage description:**

2019 was a moderately warm vintage (the ninth warmest since 1968). It was another dry vintage, close to 2016 in terms of average rainfall during the growing season. Good rainfall in December brought welcome relief, but did interfere with flowering and fruit set in the Cabernet Sauvignon, reducing yields. Temperatures post véraison (February and March) were on average, i.e. perfect for the varieties grown in the Crayères Vineyard.

#### Winemaking:

The fruit was transported back to the Tiers winery in the Piccadilly Valley, Adelaide Hills before it was crushed and destemmed. The must was fermented in larger potter fermenters and smaller open-top fermenters. After fermentation and maceration, the must was pressed off skins and each variety went through malolactic in tank. At the end of malolactic in late 2019, the wines were racked and aged in French oak barrels (average of 39% new oak) for 8 months before being racked to old 4,000L French oak foudres and aged for a further 11 months. After a light egg fining in foudres, the wines were racked one more time in the blending tank, before bottling without filtration mid 2021.

# **Cellaring Potential:**

15-20 years

# **Food Pairing ideas:**

Alain Ducasse' Boeuf Bourguignon and fresh Tagliatelles "au beurre"

Rack of Saltbush lamb roasted with rosemary and mild chillies, medley of baby carrots and small potatoes

#### **Grape Varieties:**

Cabernet Sauvignon (50%) Shiraz (48%) Cabernet Franc (2%).

#### **Closure:**

Stelvin

