

# Terre à Terre Crayères Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2023

The Crayères Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2023 is our sixth vintage of this classic Australian blend following the long-established tradition of fine Australian Cabernet Shiraz wines – and it is also the Thirteenth vintage of our Cabernet Sauvignon dominant release. 2023 was a cool and wet vintage creating the perfect framework for the production of very fine Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz wines in Wrattonbully. The wine is more delicate that its predecessors, with very perfumed nose of liquorice and cassis, and a balanced palate of dark berry fruit and spice.

#### Harvest date:

The Shiraz was hand harvested on the  $12^{th}$ ,  $13^{th}$  of April 2023. The Cabernet Sauvignon was hand harvested on the  $13^{th}$  and  $12^{4h}$  of April 2023.

#### **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:

2023 was a very cool vintage, even cooler than the infamous 2011 vintage. It was also relatively humid. The temperatures were evenly spread during the growing season and the rain was well dispersed. Our continuous efforts to control yields during the growing season, and the long time between véraison and harvest, allowed us to ripen our Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz bunches to perfection. The wine has a deep ruby red colour, intense cassis and liquorice aromatics, supple tannins and very balanced palate expression of dark berries and spice.

#### 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 fermentation in tank. At the end of malolactic in Spring 2023, the wines were racked and aged in French oak barrels (18% new oak) and in old foudres for 14 months. After a light cross flow filtration, the wines were racked in the blending tank before bottling.

**Alcohol**: 14.5%

Cases Produced: 3,000 six-packs

**RRP:** \$59

# **Cellaring Potential:**

15-20 years

# Food Pairing ideas:

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

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

## **Grape Varieties:**

Cabernet Sauvignon (65%) Shiraz (35%)

#### **Closure:**

Stelvin

