



ICON OF THE BAROSSA

# '50 Year Old Vines' Cabernet Sauvignon 2019

## Heritage

Château Tanunda was established in 1890 and is the site of some of the first vines planted in the Barossa in the 1840s as well as one of the Valley's first wineries. The 'Old Vines' series showcases the significant history and special wine characteristics of a selection of old vine vineyards for which the Barossa valley is world famous. The Barossa Old Vines Charter was instituted to register vineyards by age, so that older vines could be preserved, retained and promoted.

## Vineyard

These Cabernet Sauvignon grapes from this wine come from our single estate vineyard in the Bethany sub-region of the Barossa. These low-yielding "Barossa Old Vines" were planted over 50 years ago and are now fully mature. They have a root structure and trunk thickness that encourage diversity of flavor and character. Their worthiness has been proven over many vintages, consistently producing the highest quality fruit.

## Winemaking

The grapes are destemmed, but not crushed, and spend seven days on their skins in open fermenters with twice daily hand-plunging and pumping over of the cap to more gently extract colour, flavours and tannins. This is followed by careful basket pressing and 18 months maturation in a combination of new and seasoned French oak. In keeping with our non-interventionalist winemaking style we neither fine nor filter this wine.

## Tasting Note

Deep magenta in colour with a vibrant nose of dark fruit, chocolate, vanilla and cinnamon aromas. An exotic and full-bodied palate driven by flavours of fruits of the forest, blackcurrant and a savoury spice bound together by succulent fine-grained tannins. A wine of great length which will reward many years in the cellar.



Alc/Vol:	14.5%	Closure:	Cork
TA:	6.5 g/l	Maturation:	18 months new and seasoned French barrique
RS:	>2 g/l	Potential Cellaring:	15 Years from vintage
pH	3.5	Winemaker:	Neville Rowe

CHATEAU TANUNDA

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**GOLD MEDAL**

**Review by: Global Cabernet Masters 2022, The Drinks Business**

**93 POINTS**

**Review by: Aaron Brasher, Huon Hooke's The Real Review**

**91 POINTS**

**Review by: Dave Brookes, Halliday Wine Companion**

Cabernet sauvignon sourced from a 50yo vineyard in Bethany, matured in new and seasoned French barriques for 18 months. Rich cassis and blackcurrant characters are underscored by dark spice, tobacco, licorice, dark chocolate and earth. Fine, assertive talc tannins lend support to the full-bodied black fruits and the finish trails off nicely.

**94 POINTS**

**Review by: Andrew Caillard MW**

Medium deep crimson. Intense dark chocolate dark berry aromas with roasted hazelnut, hint tobacco notes. Generously concentrated with abundant choco-berry fruits, fine velvety textures and integrated mocha, roasted hazelnut notes. Builds up to a claret-like finish with inky/ chinotto/ mineral notes. A very attractive wine with very good fruit complexity, density and structure. Cork seal. Drink now – 2034

**91 POINTS**

**Review by: Dave Brookes, Halliday Wine Companion**

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**90 POINTS**

**Review by: Erin Larkin, The Wine Advocate**

The 2019 50 Year Old Vines Cabernet Sauvignon was matured for 18 months in French oak and is an eloquent expression of the every warm, low-yielding 2019 vintage. Mulberry, blackcurrant, licorice, cedary oak and dusty dry spices pervade both the nose and palate. It is concentrated and speaks of freshly tanned leather as much as it speaks to a core of purple fruit. Gravelly and gently drying tannins shape the finish.

**92 POINTS**

**Review by: Ken Gargett, Wine Pilot**

Old vine Cabernet is under-represented in the Barossa Valley – indeed, fifty year old Cabernet vines make up less than 2% of all plantings. The vines which provided the grapes for this wine are from Bethany, the first village settled in the Barossa. Similar treatment to the Shiraz, but just 18 months in oak. It seems that Cabernet is more vintage dependent than Shiraz in this region. The colour is dark maroon. The nose offers spices, tobacco leaves, black fruits, coffee grinds, dried herbs and cocoa powder. There are abundant tannins here, giving the wine its firmness. Very good length here, this is a well-structured wine. A little burly at this very early stage, this is undoubtedly a wine which will benefit from a few years in the cellar before opening, and from a good decant when you do. Drink for eight to ten years from there.

**90 POINTS**

**Review by: Jeni Port, Wine Pilot**

In Château Tanunda terms, vine age is a relative concept. The company's Barossa Valley home is blessed with old – indeed, ancient – vines. So, consider 50 years a starting point for its old vine reds. Deep, dense chocolate pan forte, fruitcake aromas and flavours. Richness is everything here, so much so, that at times it feels you are enjoying a typical Barossa Shiraz rather than Cabernet. Earthy plummy notes provide a varietal hint, there's some dried herbals, too, and an oak tannin presence, but the overall abundance is all Barossan, chock full in blackberry fruits, cinnamon, clove, chocolatey oak and earthy, black olive savoury notes.

**95 POINTS**

**Review by: Sam Kim, Wine Orbit**

Wonderfully fruited and fragrant, showing cassis, spicy oak, thyme and rich floral aromas, leading to a concentrated palate that's sumptuous and delicious. The wine is splendidly complex with richly textured mouthfeel and grainy tannins, finishing robust and persistent. At its best: now to 2037.

**91 POINTS**

**Review by: Angus Hughson, Vinous**

This 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon 50 Year Old Vines is settling into middle age with its blackberry and mulberry aromas now joined by layers of earthy spice and caramel oak. It carries good shape and composure with compact fruit and tannins underpinning layers of blackberry flavor.



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