

# 50 Year Old Vines Cabernet Sauvignon 2020

# 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 subregion of the Barossa. These low-yielding "Barossa Old Vines" were planted over 50 years ago and are now fully mature (less than 2% of the region plantings). 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 to 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 this wine was not fined and would be suitable for vegans. Suitable for vegans and vegetarians.

# **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 French oak (20% new)

**RS**: >2 g/l **Drink**: 2024-2034 **PH**: 3.5 **Winemaker**: Jeremy Ottawa



# **Awards**

#### 95 Points - Sam Kim, Wine Orbit

This is splendidly expressed on the nose with blackcurrant, dried herb, clove and toasty oak aromas, leading to a succulent palate offering terrific fruit richness with spicy nuances. Beautifully framed by silky texture and polished tannins, finishing long and sturdy. At its best: now to 2038.

# 94 Points - Ray Jordan, Wine Pilot

A hands-on minimalistic approach was taken with this Cabernet to gently coax the delightful varietal characters from this old vine fruit. Leafy tobacco and blackcurrant fruits on the nose with a touch of red berry to lift. The palate is perfectly integrated with fine grained oak and silky yet firm tannins in support. It has the structure and fruit to handle extended cellaring. Drink by: 2024-2039

# 93 Points - Dave Brookes, Halliday Wine Companion

... sourced from old-vine Barossa vineyards planted in the 1960s and 50s. Aged 24 months in old and new French oak. Bright crimson in the glass with aromas of blackberry, satsuma plum and blueberry on a bed of baking spices, earth, olive tapenade, cedar, vanilla bean and licorice. The palate is flush with ripe black fruits, dark chocolate and spice with tight, sandy tannin support and plenty of vitality and flow. The finish is long and pure with floral purple and black fruits and an array of deep spices. 2023-2033

#### 92 Points – Jeni Port, Wine Pilot

Statuesque and firm in structure but so fine in detail, this 2020 Cabernet reveals the innate beauty of the grape in the Barossa. The grape might be outnumbered in hectares planted by Shiraz, but Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon, especially off old vines, is something to behold. The lead into the 2020 vintage was far from ideal – dry and hot – but the old vines came through with class. Inviting aromas of black fruits, cassis, nutmeg, cedary oak, sage, oregano and jalapeño. Shows its fuller side sure enough, but the ripe tannin structure – not to mention, the herbal influences that so distinguish Cabernet – work in unison to present an integrated whole, that allows the finer detail of clean, bright fruit and spice to show through. Precision plus! Has time on its side. 2024-2038

# 91 Points - Ken Gargett, Wine Pilot

Sourced from fruit from the Bethany sub-region, the wine spent eighteen months in top-notch French oak. A maroon/red hue. The wine gives us florals and bay leaves, dried herbs, soy, beefstock and cold tea with some earthy notes. Good oak integration. It is, perhaps, a little chunky in style, but this is a wine of power. Plenty of grip here. Five to ten years ahead of it.

