

50 Year Old Vines Cabernet Sauvignon 2021

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. 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 we neither fine nor filter this wine. 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.

Production: 450 dozen



Alc/Vol: 14.5% Closure: Cork

TA: 6.5 g/l **Maturation:** 18 months French oak (20% new)

RS: >2 g/l **Drink**: 2025-2035 **pH**: 3.5 **Winemaker**: Jeremy Ottawa



Awards

95 Points - Andrew Caillard MW, The Vintage Review

Medium-deep crimson. Classical blackcurrant vanilla aromas with a hint of bush garrigue. Well concentrated blackcurrant, dark plum, hint roasted chestnut, marzipan flavour and long fine-grained tannins. Finishes claret firm with some leafy notes. Drink now–2032

95 Points - Jeni Port, Wine Pilot

Wow! An outstanding example of Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon from a top year. It arrives pitch perfect with everything in place led by the most arresting combination of intense, bright fruit and complex herbal interplay enhanced with an earthy varietal stamp. Spearmint, bay leaf, black cherry, dark plum, cassis, aniseed with darker, earth and bramble notes define both the aroma and the palate. Has taken and accepted 18 months maturation in oak easily, relaying fine tannins to the wine together with a natural, firm structure. This has plenty of class. Could open a bottle now very easily but the more cautious among us will wait. Drink by: 2024-2040

95 Points - Sam Kim, Wine Orbit

Sturdy yet stylish, the wine shows dark fruit intensity, rich floral, olive and roasted hazelnut aromas on the nose. The palate is equally satisfying with excellent presence and fine flow, wonderfully framed by finely infused tannins, making it delicious and highly enjoyable. At its best: 2025 to 2039.

95 Points - Ray Jordan, Wine Pilot

A truly exceptional expression of Barossa Cabernet in a good year, showing how in the best seasons the varietal characters of Cabernet can express itself impressively. It has the black fruits evident but then a lift of red currant edges to lift and brighten. It's a vibrant, lively wine of great poise and refinement. Drink by: 2024-2039

95 Points - Ken Gargett, Wine Pilot

The grapes here spend seven days on skins in open fermenters with twice daily hand-plunging before a year and a half maturation in a mix of new and older French barriques. The vines hail from the sub-region of Bethany. An intense black/maroon hue. The nose exhibits chocolate and plums, spices, a pleasing flick of oak and aniseed. There are notes of soy, leather, dried herbs, licorice and beefstock. On the palate, notes of mint and coffee beans emerge. The wine offers a silky texture, satiny tannins and a lingering finish. A really lovely wine with ten to fifteen years ahead of it.

92 Points - James Suckling

This typical cabernet entices with notes of tapenade, cedar, tobacco leaves, paprika and cassis. Generous and plush on the palate, with an almost full body and a juicy, ripe and lengthy finish. Light chocolate and fruit sweetness at the end. Drink or hold.

91 Points - Angus Hughson, Vinous

The open-knit 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon 50 Year Old Vines Barossa offers up fleshy aromas of blackcurrant and black olive with a seam of fresh cedar. Sturdy in style with firm tannins and fresh acidity, it shows good overall integrity and balance to enjoy over the next decade. Drinking Window 2028 – 2035

Gold Medal - Global Cabernet Masters 2024 Gold Medal - Berlin Wine Trophy 2023 Gold Medal - Mundus Vini 2024

