

1891 ANCESTOR VINES SHIRAZ - 2014 VINTAGE

BACKGROUND

When Thomas Hardy purchased the Upper Tintara Vineyard in McLaren Vale in the late 1870s it heralded the foundation of one of Australia's greatest winemaking dynasties.

The original winery on the property, later extended and improved by Hardy, was built by the legendary Dr A.C. Kelly in 1863, the slate mined at nearby Delabole quarry in the Willunga Hills.

WINEMAKING

The 2014 growing season had a wet beginning and then average winter rainfall. A very dry spring followed and we had no rain after November.

Two heatwaves in January were alleviated by 40mm of rain on the 14th of February which beautifully freshened the vineyard.

We hand picked about 3/4 tonne of Shiraz from the Ancestor Vines Block on March 6th.

The fruit was destemmed and crushed before fermentation in a small open fermenter for 18 days with hand plunging three times per day. After fermentation was complete, the wine remained on skins for two weeks before being basket pressed and transferred to second fill French oak barriques.

The Ancestor Vines Shiraz spent nearly two years in barrel before being fined, filtered and bottled in February 2016.

The 2014 has been matured in bottle in perfect cellar conditions prior to release.

This wine will drink beautifully upon release but will further reward careful cellaring for many years to come.

WINEMAKER	Andrew Hardy
APPELLATION	Blewitt Springs
VARIETY	Shiraz
VINTAGE	2014
PRODUCTION	640 Bottles
COLOUR	Black with purple hues
AROMA	Blackberry and dark fruits, with hints of cherry-liquor, fennel and coriander seed.
PALATE	Rich, generous and full-bodied. Deep, dark fruits, opulent and succulent. Fine, supple tannins lead through to a persistently long finish.
TECH	Alc: 14.5% T/A 5.7 g/L pH 3.56

