



WOLF BLASS

THE MASTER

GEIER VINEYARD - BAROSSA VALLEY
CABERNET SHIRAZ
2018

UPHOLDING THE WOLF BLASS TRADITION OF EXPERT BLENDING, THE MASTER WAS CRAFTED FROM EXCEPTIONAL PARCELS OF BAROSSA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON AND SHIRAZ, SELECTED BY OUR WINEMAKERS TO CREATE A WINE OF RARE DISTINCTION.

Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz were sourced from the distinguished Geier Vineyard at Greenock, on the Western Ridge of the Barossa Valley. Cabernet Sauvignon provides the soul of the wine, driving the palate and style. Picked in two batches, the leaner western end of the vineyard produced very small, tannic black berries, with the lush eastern end displaying intense varietal expression. Taut, powerful Shiraz completes the blend, giving weight to the palate, but remaining in a supporting role.

One batch of Cabernet Sauvignon spent 28 days on skins in extended post-fermentation maceration under the protective cover of inert argon gas. This helped lengthen and soften the tannins, giving the wine exceptional line and presence, while at the same time preserving fruit integrity, and enhancing colour and flavour intensity. The ultimate blend is a lifted, concentrated wine with fine, black fruit aromatics, a smooth, rich, complex palate, and long, silky tannins.



WINE SPECIFICATIONS

VINEYARD REGION	<i>Geier Vineyard, Greenock, Barossa Valley</i>
VINTAGE CONDITIONS	<i>The Geier Vineyard enjoyed an exceptional growing season in 2018, beginning with above average winter rain that filled soil profiles and set the vines up well. Spring and summer were warm and dry, with ideal conditions for ripening. Early lignification and flavour development allowed for picking at optimum ripeness without excessive sugar. Harvest was relatively early, with wines showing lifted aromatics and intense varietal character.</i>
GRAPE VARIETY	<i>86% Cabernet Sauvignon 14% Shiraz</i>
MATURATION	<i>Matured in 68% seasoned and 32% new French oak barriques for 15 months, enhancing complexity, elegance, length and structure.</i>
WINE ANALYSIS	<i>Alc/Vol: 14.0% Acidity: 6.8 g/L pH: 3.54</i>
PEAK DRINKING	<i>2020 to 2045. This wine will mellow and develop with age to reward many years of careful cellaring.</i>
FOOD MATCH	<i>Great with pan-seared wagyu steak, or roast rack of lamb with sugar snap peas.</i>

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

COLOUR	<i>Deep, inky red.</i>
NOSE	<i>Lifted dark fruit aromas of blackcurrant, blackberry and black mulberry, characteristic of the Geier Vineyard terroir, with hints of liquorice, savoury black olive, bay leaf and light Cabernet florals.</i>
PALATE	<i>A smooth, rich palate with complex, concentrated flavours of ripe black fruits, black olive, gentle earthiness and cedary oak. A sleek, silky texture, and fine, long, Cabernet tannins provide a layered structure with tight focus, definitive line and great length.</i>

Winemaker: Steven Frost