

THE HIGH TRELLIS

Cabernet Sauvignon 2017

McLaren Vale, Cabernet Sauvignon (100%)



The Name

This vineyard was planted in the 19th century, and received its nickname as it was the first in the region to be trained above knee height. Over the past four decades, Cabernet Sauvignon from the High Trellis vineyard has been released under the d'Arenberg label to consistent critical acclaim, and won the coveted Jimmy Watson trophy at the 1969 Melbourne Wine Show.

The Characteristics

There's a cool climate vibe to this wine (thanks to the cooler 2017 vintage). It's medium bodied and acid driven, with loads of black currant, black berry and liquorice flavours. The finish is long, and supple, with plenty of spice to boot!

The Vintage

A healthy winter and plenty of spring rains set the vines up very well. Bud burst was on time, but very cool for the first part of spring. Shoots grew to 5 or 6 inches long and then stopped for a month. Flowering was quite late, by three weeks, which meant a late start to harvest, and long, slow ripening periods. The summer rains stopped in mid-January, so disease pressure was low. It was very dry from February to April, with only a few millimetres of rain. Days were mild with a lot of cool nights, the first few weeks of April was around two degrees hotter than usual, which help that last bits of fruit to ripen. Overall, a great vintage with minimal disease pressure and above average crop levels.

The Winemaking

Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to five tonne headed down open fermenters. These batches remain separate until final blending. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation. The wine is then basket pressed and transferred to old American oak barriques to complete fermentation. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, and there is no racking until final blending. This wine does not undertake fining or filtration prior to bottling.



Alcohol	14.5%	Residual sugar	1.2 g/L
Titrateable acid	7.1	pH	3.52
Chief Winemaker	Chester Osborn	Senior Winemaker	Jack Walton