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TASTING NOTES

Heathcote 2016 Block Two Shiraz

- Summary:** This wine comes from a single block selection from the oldest Shiraz vines in our Camelback vineyard. We have long been convinced that the Block Two produces the best quality Shiraz fruit we have.
- The Block 2 Shiraz is dark in colour, there are blackberries and violets on the nose. Layers of intense dark berry fruit and spice unfold on the palate, mingled with subtle tannins and a touch of earthiness. French oak enhances the richness of the fruit and adds complexity. Block Two is a wine with structure, length, and fine tannins. It will continue to improve over the next 5 or more years.
- Origin:** Heathcote, Victoria.
- Viticulture:** Vines planted in 1999. Vines spur-pruned and vertical shoot positioned to ensure fruit exposure and even ripening. Low yielding to ensure richly flavoured grapes. A portion of the vineyard was bunch-thinned for even greater concentration of flavour.
- Vintage:** An early budburst in late August, followed by an early flowering. Summer was warm and dry hence no disease pressure. The typically warm days of summer were moderated by cool nights and amply canopy, which protected the fruit. Shiraz was picked from 9th – 14th of Feb. A very early season indeed.
- Winemaking:** Our grapes were destemmed into open fermenters with 20% Whole Bunch and were plunged twice daily to gently extract colour and flavour. After 30 days on skins the Shiraz was basket pressed, then transferred to French oak barriques for 10 months, approx 25% new, from the cooperages of Dargaud & Jaeglé and St Martin. After one racking during the year, the wines were then bottled.
- Bottled:** February 2017
- Alcohol:** 14%
- Ageing Potential:** Enjoy now, or cellar carefully for 6-8 years