

# HENTLEY FARM THE BEAST SHIRAZ 2016



## WINE INTRODUCTION

Like the fabled character, the Beast is big and bold, yet has a beautiful soft side...Selected from a single block high on the hill, where the soils are shallow and the sunlight is even, you can expect the Beast to exhibit great concentration of flavour and richness, with soft grippy tannins.

## WINEMAKER VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Leading up to the 2016 vintage, a dry winter and early spring was relieved by 60mm of rain in the first week of November. Consistently warm conditions through late spring and early summer provided ideal ripening conditions with no disease pressure, also bringing expected harvest dates forward. Warmth through December and most of January was followed by a 60mm rain event in the last week of January. This, along with a long spell of mild temperatures provided the vines with some relief. The result was a slowing of sugar ripening and thus providing increased flavour development. Harvest dates mostly returned to normality and the balance of seed and flavour ripeness was the best I have seen since 2010.

## WINEMAKING NOTES

The fruit was de-stemmed & left on skins in open top fermenters for 8-10 days. After an early heat spike, a slow fermentation was achieved with temperatures ranging from 15-18C. Cap management included a combination of open pump-overs and hand plunging. Once fermentation was completed the wine was basket pressed to a combination of new (60%) and 2nd use French barrels, where it underwent natural malolactic fermentation. The wine spent a total of 22 months maturation in oak. No fining or filtration were used in the production of this wine.

## APPEARANCE, AROMA AND TASTING NOTE

Rich fruit combines with an array of spices and dark chocolate on this dense nose. Traditional Beast tannins line the front of the palate with Christmas pudding and forest berries through the middle creating layers of luscious fruit and intensity. Spices and chocolate return in the back to provide length that competes with the best vintages of this wine.

## WINE INFORMATION

Country:	Australia
Region:	Barossa
Sub Region:	Seppeltsfield
Wine Type:	Red Wine
Producer:	Hentley Farm
Wine Name:	The Beast Shiraz
Vintage:	2016
Principle Grape (%):	Shiraz (100)
Closure:	Cork
Vegetarian Wine:	Yes
Vegan Wine:	Yes
ABV (%):	15.00
Acid (g/L):	7.10
pH:	3.53
Winemaker Name:	Andrew Quin
Bottle Size:	75cl
Case/Pack Size:	6x75cl

## WINE AWARDS

Decanter:	96 points
James Suckling:	94 points
James Halliday:	95 points