

# 2018 KILIKANOON LACKEY SHIRAZ



**WINEMAKER:** Kevin Mitchell  
**REGION:** Clare Valley, South Australia  
**VARIETALS:** Shiraz  
**MATURATION:** 14 months in seasoned French oak  
**ALCOHOL:** 14.5% alc/vol

**BACKGROUND:** ‘Lackey’ is an affectionate Australian term referring to a hardworking laborer of agreeable character who is generally assigned to menial tasks, yet none-the-less gets the job done without the merest sign of a complaint. In a similar fashion, Australian Shiraz has long been considered the workhorse of the Australian wine industry – undeniably full of personality, and the ideal candidate to get the job done, regardless of the situation! This hard working ‘lackey’ of a wine punches well above its weight in personality and complexity.

**WINEMAKING:** Small parcels of Shiraz were selected across two vineyards at their optimal levels of ripeness, vinified separately in small open topped fermenters, each pumped over by hand before being basketed pressed into a selection of seasoned French oak. The wine is unfinned and unfiltered.

**TASTING NOTES:** The aromas of spicy plum and red fruit notes jump out of the glass, assisted by subtle French oak chariness and cedary overtones. A fine yet textural palate, the flavors of ripe plums, dark cherries, hints of cocoa powder and tar perfectly combine with the natural acidity and balanced tannins in a long and persistent finish.

**ABOUT KILIKANOON:** Founded in 1997 by Kevin Mitchell, Kilikanoon is a boutique Clare Valley winery with an international reputation for producing regionally expressive, terroir-driven wines. The Kilikanoon property, featuring a circa 1860s stone cottage housing Kilikanoon tasting room, was originally settled by early English migrants who named it after an historic old mansion in Cornwall. On purchasing the property in the 1990s, Kevin Mitchell inherited 30 year old Shiraz, Cabernet, Grenache and Riesling vineyards, many of which were planted by his father, Mort, in the 1960s. Fifteen years on, with the addition of partners Nathan Waks, a principal cellist with the Sydney Symphony, and Bruce Baudinet, Managing Director of Oracle Estates, Kilikanoon is rated by US and Australian critics as one of the Clare Valley’s outstanding wineries, producing bracingly intense and long-lived Rieslings, along with powerful, yet balanced, Shiraz, Grenache and Cabernet Sauvignon.

