

2018 KILIKANOON COVENANT SHIRAZ



WINEMAKER: Peter Warr
REGION: Clare Valley, South Australia
VARIETALS: Shiraz
MATURATION: 14 months in new and one year old French oak barrels
ALCOHOL: 14.5% alc/vol

VINTAGE NOTES: With low winter rainfall and a warm start to spring, the 2018 season was keenly anticipated after the harsh conditions of the prior season. The warm weather saw bud burst occurring a couple of weeks prior to previous years and continued into the new year with a welcomed few days of rain in mid-January to revitalize vines. These ideal conditions saw the fruit fully ripen with in one of the lowest environmental stress years for quite some time.

WINEMAKING: Crushed into stainless steel tanks, the grapes were allowed to warm and naturally begin fermentation. Once completed, the skins were pressed and the wine placed into new and seasoned French oak hogsheads for 14 months. Once each batch softened, a blend that shows the refinement and richness of cooler climate shiraz was compiled but selecting barrels out of each batch.

TASTING NOTES: Aromas of blueberry and black currant layer over complexing notes of fresh pepper and dried tobacco. This Shiraz is subtle, soft and flows seamlessly across the palate. Medium bodied, the layered flavors are revealed one after another showing the complexity of this flavorsome wine. Black currant and red cherry are bright on the palate, and are supported but subtle notes of oak, chocolate powder and dried fruits.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 94 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 93 pts Halliday Wine Companion, 92 pts Wine Spectator

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. On purchase of the historic property in 1997, mature vineyards of Shiraz, Cabernet, Grenache and Riesling that had been planted by Kevin's father, Mort in the 1960s, became a part of Kilikanoon, and now form the heart of the estate vineyards. Peter Warr joined the winery in late 2018 after traveling the world honing his craft and is now responsible for carrying on Mort and Kevin's legacy at this treasured Clare Valley estate. 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.

