



THE TALLY

Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Among his many pursuits, Doug Balnaves was a shearer of Merino sheep. A shearer in Australia, is paid by the number of sheep he shears. Counted every two hour period, the Tally is recorded in the Tally book. The higher the Tally, the greater the recognition among his peers for skill and hard work. As an expression of this tradition, the Balnaves family see the wine 'THE TALLY' as the ultimate achievement for their company.

Vintage 2016, after a warm Christmas, the weather turned with very cool nights. Picked in late March, Cabernet Sauvignon from our Dead Morris vineyard (93.5%) was fermented with Dunstan Petit Verdot (6.5%). All fruit was handpicked and received a long maceration on skins for 16 months in 58% new fine-grained chateau barriques from Taransaud, Berger and Seguin Moreau cooperages, before light egg fining and bottling in December 2017, under procork.

Deep rich red in colour, the nose is perfumed with perfectly ripened wild blackberry, mulberry and cassis fruit, with a touch of fine vanillan/coffee bean French oak. The finish is long and textured with fine grainy grape tannins. This wine is complex and tightly structured and made to cellar with confidence. We recommend decanting before drinking.

Author: James Halliday

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Rating: 96 points

"As the Reserve, this wine has the right to flex extract, concentration and muscle across some oakier ribs. And yet...Balnaves' finely hewn grape tannins-all pulpy and chewy-along with a proclivity toward refinement over excess, keeps it all in check. Blackcurrant stains the cheeks. A potpourri of herb, licorice straps and vanilla to coffee bean soar along the structural beams. This is a superlative wine of immense oomph, melded with grace."

VINTAGE	2016
VARIETY	93.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6.5% Petit Verdot
REGIONAL BREAKDOWN	100% Coonawarra
ALC/VOL	14.4%
TOTAL ACID	5.64 g/L
pH	3..61
CLOSURE	ProCork
CELLARING	Optimum at 10-12 years after vintage