



NAGAMBIE LAKES

# TAHBILK



## 2017 'OLD VINES' CABERNET SHIRAZ

Wine Region: Nagambie Lakes

Fruit Source: Tahbilk Estate

Grape Variety: Cabernet Sauvignon 51% Shiraz 49%

Maturation: A mix of new and older French and American Oak for 18 months

Acid: 6.4 g/l

pH: 3.50

Alcohol: 14.5% v/v

TOTAL 'OLD VINES' CABERNET SHIRAZ AWARDS



### VINTAGE 2017

After many years of dry winters we received average to above average rains through the 2016 winter and spring. The grapevines responded, growing vivid green canopies and setting good crop levels. A temperamental spring saw up and down temperatures and there were many 'Four seasons in a day' events, and warmish rainy days. The latter caused anxiety for our vineyard managers, with the potential for mildew to develop. However good management and diligent monitoring allowed us to keep the vineyard disease free.

Summer seemed transient but we did have three balmy weeks through March with ripening continuing at a steady pace. The fine, albeit slightly cooler, weather lingered on in April and harvest continued steadily with very few issues but thankful that the weather did hold.

Vintage 2017 will be remembered as having a traditional late start with the very even and steady ripening resulting in distinct varietal flavours with bright fruit and elegant, fine structures.

### ABOUT THE WINE

Established in 1860 and purchased by the Purbrick family in 1925, Tahbilk is located in the premium central Victorian region of Nagambie Lakes.

The quintessentially Australian blending of Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz saw initial releases at Tahbilk from the 1957 and 1958 vintages under Eric Purbrick's tutelage, believed to be the first such 'Estate Grown' blends in Australia. It was not until 14 years later that Eric's son John resurrected the blend that saw four vintages released in the 1970s and a further two in the 1980s.

The Estate is blessed with significant older vineyard blocks with, among others, Shiraz dating back to 1860 and 1933, and Cabernet Sauvignon to 1949. It is selected of these aged vine plantings that are the primary source for the 'Old Vines' Cabernet Shiraz when, from the 2010 vintage, the blend returned and is now a permanent fixture of Tahbilk's premium Reds portfolio. With a contributing average vine age of over 35 years they set a new standard for such releases from the Estate.

### TASTING NOTE

"Sourced from our extensive old vine plantings, this 2017 vintage blend of Estate Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz (51% and 49% respectively) definitely takes its place in our premium reds portfolio. A robust and generous bouquet and palate speaks of dark berry and plum fruits with multilayered spice characters nestled in a supportive frame of firm grainy tannins. A long and deliciously flavoursome finish is enlivened by a fresh grape acidity. Careful cellaring will be rewarded with additional character and complexity"

**Alister Purbrick** ~ Fourth Generation  
CEO and Winemaker