

## 2018 Barossa Merlot

### History

Until 1992, Elderton had used the small amounts of Merlot produced from the Estate as a blending tool with Cabernet. In 1992, the individual parcel of Merlot was exceptional and the decision was made to make a single varietal that encompassed the best that Merlot had to offer. The Elderton Merlot has been frequently recognised amongst the best Merlots in the country, as well as one of the most consistent. The 2018 vintage shows how superb Merlot can be in Australia, when handled well, and this wine sits proudly in our portfolio with its harmonious power and elegance.

### Vineyard Information

The Elderton vineyard, which is approximately 72 acres in size, has only two small blocks of Merlot. Both of these blocks are towards the back of the vineyard, on the highest point, where the soils are much sandier and free-draining than those closer to the river bed. We also source fruit from Light Pass. With our Mediterranean climate, the Baume reaches 14 - 15 and quite unlike traditional Bordeaux, we have found great results in allowing the fruit to ripen significantly on the vine.

### Winemaker's Comments

*The 2018 Merlot shows a vibrancy and juiciness. It is cool fermented, under 22C, and so has retained its fruit forward flavours. Ripeness in the vineyard has also ensured a soft supple palate.*

- Richard Langford

<b>Style</b>	Medium bodied, classic, supple
<b>Colour</b>	Deep red
<b>Aroma</b>	Plum, red berries, spice
<b>Palate</b>	Plum, red fruits, spice and vanilla
<b>Alc/Vol</b>	14.0%



### Barossa Merlot 2018

**Style:** Medium bodied, classic, supple

**Vineyard Source:** 70% Light Pass,  
30% estate grown, Nuriootpa

**Vine Age:** 15 - 34 years

**Picking Date:** 13 March 2018

**Oak:** 12 months, predominantly second fill  
French puncheons

**Cellaring:** Drink now or cellar confidently for  
5 - 10 years from vintage