



NAGAMBIE LAKES

# TAHBILK

EST-1860



## 2015 'OLD VINES' CABERNET SHIRAZ

Wine Region: Nagambie Lakes

Fruit Source: Tahbilk Estate

Grape Variety: Cabernet Sauvignon 60% ~ Shiraz 40%

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

Acid: 6.6 g/l

pH: 3.46

Alcohol: 14.0% v/v



### VINTAGE 2015

The winter of 2014 started well with above average rainfall for June and July, then nothing in August. The rollercoaster continued with September above, below for October, higher for November and low for December. The vineyard managers were irrigating at budburst and continued through Spring. Notwithstanding the unstable weather the vineyards remained healthy and disease free. Amazing considering the forecast conditions. Vintage itself started early – mid February – and continued apace until a lull in ripening early March that allowed the winery to catch up. The whites from 2015 show intense varietal characters, particularly the Marsanne & Riesling. Flavours in the reds are bright and concentrated - a very good year.

### 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

Drawing on the Estate's extensive older vine plantings, this blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Shiraz is deliciously expressive of the character borne of its mature vineyards' sourcing. Ripe dark berry and cherry fruits, with mint, plum, earth and spice notes; the judicious use of some 50% new French and American oak, alongside older barrels, brings cedar, herbal and vanillin notes into an overall package of great distinction. These complex and intricate characters will develop further with careful cellaring out 2030 plus.

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

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