

# Geoff Merrill



## RESERVE 2011 Shiraz

*“The best barrels of the vintage are selected for our Reserve range and given additional maturation in oak prior to bottling and cellaring.”*

### VINTAGE INFORMATION

The 2011 vintage was one many would probably like to forget! During the crucial time for grape growing in McLaren Vale (Jan to Mar), we experienced double the average rainfall (55.5mm) with falls for the three months totalling 116.4mm.

The lead up to the vintage was actually very good. Soaking rains in winter and into spring and mild temperatures in early summer meant a nice slow accumulation of flavours which we managed to capture in the fruit we took in. The fact is that most wineries released the 2011 vintage too young not allowing these more delicate wines to develop. This 2011 with 6 years maturation is more elegant and European in style. A pleasant surprise which will further bottle age.

### WINEMAKERS NOTES

The colour is a dark red with ample depth, looking great now it has a few years under its belt. The aroma has a lightness about it. Showing earth, black pepper, spice and a touch of plum with some savoury cigar box and coffee notes thanks to time in the bottle. The wine gently greets the palate then becomes a welcome guest with great poise and presence. Fine tannin, a warm rounded mouthfeel and plenty of flavour complete this delicious elegant wine from a very misunderstood vintage.

### WINEMAKERS

Geoff Merrill & Scott Heidrich

### TECHNICAL DETAILS

**Variety:** Shiraz

**Growing Region:** McLaren Vale

**Harvest Date:** March / April 2011

**Oak Handling:** 20 months in French & American oak

**Alc 14.5%, pH 3.43, TA 6.65 g/L, RS 2.0 g/L**



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