



NAGAMBIE LAKES

TAHBILK



2019 '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: 6.2 g/l

pH: 3.55

Alcohol: 14.5% v/v

TOTAL 'OLD VINES' CABERNET SHIRAZ AWARDS

1



3



8



39



VINTAGE 2019

2019 was the hottest summer on record, exacerbated by a dry winter and early spring. November and December were then tropical in comparison – higher temperatures and 50% more rainfall than the long-term average. This weather pattern saw terrific canopy growth, with the frequent rains turning the vineyards a vivid green. The predictions of a warm and drier than normal summer, eventuated after Christmas The January average of 35 was 5 degrees hotter than 'normal' with February temperatures just a fraction above average. The heat was relentless, and there was no useful rainfall for the month so it remained very dry. Despite this the fruit didn't ripen as rapidly as anticipated, and we started vintage relatively late on February 19th. Ripening continued to be steady even though the hot days and warm nights continued, which allowed us to bring in fruit at optimum ripeness and without a rush. And the end result? Yields for Whites were down on expectations, but quality was good. The Reds fared better yield wise, and have bright fresh fruit, depth of flavour, and rich, full palates.

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

"Tahbilk's 2019 vintage reds are noted for their bright fruit characters and deep, rich flavours, no more evident than with this 60/40 blend crafted from the Estate's older plantings. Spice, herbal and subtle violet florals sit alongside concentrated dark berry and plum fruits on a plush nose and palate, with well-integrated oak bringing cedar and savoury edges. A wine of true distinction. Mindful cellaring, will see added complexity develop out to 2029/2035."

Alister Purbrick ~ 4th Generation and Winemaker