



THE BALLASTER

2013 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

McLAREN VALE

The uncommon term for arguably the most important person on early sailing ships was the “Ballaster”. Responsible for loading the ship in such a way that she would stay upright, they became legendary in port and at sea. This wine is a tribute to the hard work, love and dedication of our mother Marie Shaw, who has kept the Shaw Family Vintners’ ship steady since she and Richard planted their first vines in McLaren Vale in 1976.

Fittingly, great Cabernet Sauvignons display beautiful balance and this is the best example we make. Selected from 65 year old McLaren Vale vines, we matured this wine in French Oak hogsheads for two years.



Cherry and mint aromas, along with chocolate oak abound, carrying through to the full round palate, finishing with smooth velvety tannins. It’s one to add balance and grace to your cellar for seven to ten years, perhaps even longer.

ALCOHOL 14.5%

VINTAGE 2013

McLaren Vale vintage was characterized by good average winter rains and dry warm weather in spring, which followed through into summer.

Two significant heat periods punctuated the vintage, but their timing was not detrimental to fruit quality.

The red varieties were subject to some significant heat events; however, the fruit returned to balance after both.

The vintage finished just before Easter in perfect dry and cool autumn conditions which proved to be excellent conditions for our red grapes.