



THE FIGUREHEAD 2012 SHIRAZ

Figureheads are symbolic, statements of leadership and pride. They were often set as busts at the prow of old sailing ships and given our history, it seems appropriate that we should have one too. As you would expect, our figurehead is none other than Richard Morton Shaw, who along with our mum Marie, and a fair dose of tenacity and vision, steered our company towards the success we now enjoy.

WINEMAKER NOTES

The grapes were lightly crushed and de-stemmed, then placed into open top fermenters which were hand plunged 2–3 times per day. Subsequently pressed, then transferred into a combination of American and French Oak hogsheads, new and aged, where primary and secondary fermentations were completed.

Aged in oak for 24 months—the best barrels were then selected for bottling.

COLOUR

Deep garnet red with vibrant purple hue.

BOUQUET

An infusion of dark fruits with hints of vanillin and aromatic spices.

PALATE

Rich in stewed plums, prunes and spice. Elegant and structured with silky tannins.

VINTAGE

This vintage highlighted all the good characteristics found in McLaren Vale fruit - a cooler drier vintage than the previous 2011.

Surprisingly, vintage commenced two weeks before the average, with harvest starting in late January for white varieties. Red varieties also commenced earlier than usual on the back of light crops and ideal cool ripening conditions.

The flavour weight was exceptional across all reds and accelerated ripening occurred in the weeks prior to Easter, as the weather finally warmed up.

Vintage was concluded by the middle of March.

FOOD MATCH

Rack of lamb, braised beef cheeks and strong, hard cheeses, especially cheddar.



ICON RANGE

region	McLaren Vale	alcohol	15.5%
vineyard	Arthur's Old	cellar potential	7-10 years
vine age	80+ years	bottling date	29.11.16
soil profile	red loam	production	1004 x 3