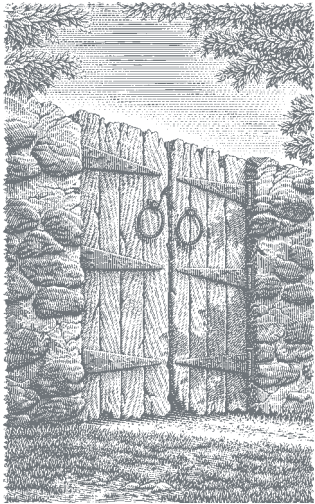


THE GATE



McLAREN VALE
2002 SHIRAZ



THE GATE

2002 SHIRAZ MCLAREN VALE

VINEYARD SOURCE

Davey Family Vineyard, McLaren Vale, South Australia

VARIETY BLEND

100% Shiraz

OAK REGIME

An average of 15 months in 50% new American, 5% new French oak and the balance in one year old French and American oak.

BOTTLING

pH: 3.51

TA: 6.50 grams/liter

ALC: 14.50%

MCLAREN VALE

First planted with vinifera vines in the 1830s, McLaren Vale is best known today for its internationally-acclaimed, rich, flavorful Shiraz. The climate here is similar to the Mediterranean and its suitability to vinifera grape growing is defined by several factors including its proximity to Gulf St. Vincent which moderates climatic conditions; warm summer daytime temperatures (average 80.6°F) and cool afternoon sea breezes that ripen grapes slowly and evenly; and its weak soils that limit canopy development and produce complex, flavorful grapes.

VINTAGE NOTES

Good winter rainfall replenished soil profiles, setting the vines up for balanced spring growth and an even fruit set. This was followed by an extremely hot dry summer producing intensely colored reds with luscious fruit and rich tannin structure.

TASTING NOTE FROM JOHN DAVEY

This is a "winemaker's wine" that reflects the best of the McLaren Vale with its deep red color offset by youthful purple. Aromas of blackberry, ripe strawberry, violet and hints of licorice are enhanced with an integrated bouquet of vanilla and roasted cashew. The luscious strawberry mid-palate is balanced with fresh acidity and framed with fine grained oak. A full bodied powerful wine, that will reward careful cellaring, but with sophisticated integration and silky tannins that ensure the virtue of patience is not required.

