

# Geoff Merrill Wines

## GEOFF MERRILL

**Henley  
Shiraz  
2002**

### THE NAME

*“Henley is a strict barrel selection of our best of vintage McLaren Vale Shiraz and is named in honour of my Grandfather, who passed away at the ripe old age of 102. This wine is the best of the best of our McLaren Vale Shiraz and only a maximum of 10 barrels of the vintage are set aside for Henley.” - Geoff Merrill*

### TASTING NOTES

The colour is a deep brick red with cherry red hues and aromas of liquorice and plums, with hints of herbs and savoury meats. The palate is luscious with ripe red berry fruits harmonious tannins and a toasty vanillin character. This wine shows incredible length and will continue to develop for many years in cellar.

### WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

Our passion at Geoff Merrill Wines is shaping and nurturing the best wines of the vintage to select the best ten barrels for the Henley blend. This was a stunning vintage, comparable to the 1990 and 1998, due to the coolest summer on record in South Australia. Flavour ripeness with optimum natural acidity levels was achieved allowing us to produce wines of great intensity and balance.

The majority (over 85%) of this wine was harvested from the 60-year-old “Valente” vineyard just North of the McLaren Vale township on a hilltop with thin topsoil over cracking clay and ironstone. A rare blend of McLaren Vale Shiraz, the pinnacle of what we do, only 240 dozen were made.

### WINEMAKERS

Geoff Merrill & Scott Heidrich

### TECHNICAL DETAILS

**Variety:** Shiraz

**Region:** McLaren Vale

**Harvest Date:** March 2002

**Alc:** 15.0 %    **pH:** 3.40    **TA:** 7.06 g/L    **RS:** 2.35 g/L

**Oak Treatment:** 36 months in new French oak hogsheads