

# Geoff Merrill Wines

## - Tasting Note -

Since establishing himself at Mt Hurtle winery in 1985 Geoff Merrill has achieved significant success at home and internationally. His elegant, subtle wines have culminated in major trophy wins including the coveted Jimmy Watson and The Wine Society Trophy. Geoff's commitment to releasing wines to be enjoyed at the table has never wavered.



## 2014 Reserve Shiraz

### THE STORY

*"Approx. 14 months after vintage, Scott and I undertake a blind tasting to select the barrels from our McLaren Vale vineyards that make the grade for our Reserve Shiraz. These barrels are blended together then returned to new and seasoned American and French oak hogsheads for additional maturation prior to bottling."* - **Geoff Merrill**

### VINTAGE INFORMATION

The vintage started well with above average winter rains providing an excellent head start to the growing season. A warm and dry spring followed leading to early flowering and ultimately reducing yields.

In early February 2014 the rains returned providing relief and delayed harvest until March and early April allowing flavours to balance. While yields were low, wine quality was excellent with great colour and bright, pure fruit flavours.

### WINEMAKERS NOTES

The colour is a deep red with density and youthful hues. On the aroma, red currant berry fruits come forward, the opening up to savoury meats, pepper, coffee, earth and dark chocolate.

The palate shows generous fruit, smooth yet evident tannin and an embracing mouthfeel make a great first impression. Once the wine begins to open up, toasty oak and complex developing flavours come forward.

### FOOD PAIRING

Enjoy with slow cooked lamb shanks, BBQ lamb chops and pulled beef burgers.

### TECHNICAL DETAILS

**Winemakers:** Geoff Merrill & Scott Heidrich

**Variety:** Shiraz

**Region:** McLaren Vale

**Oak Treatment:** 30 months in new and seasoned French and American oak hogsheads.

**Harvest Date:** March 2014

**Alc:** 14.5%, **pH:** 3.33, **TA:** 7.98 g/L, **RS:** 2.70 g/L

