



## HEATHCOTE ESTATE

### MUSEUM RELEASE

## 2012 Heathcote Estate Single Vineyard Shiraz

### *2011 / 2012 Growing Season*

Dam storages were still full and soil profiles likewise leading into the 2011-12 season, after a wet previous year. Spring temperatures were slightly warmer than average. This warm weather combined with excellent soil moisture contributed to abundant growth and some meticulous bunch thinning followed. Flowering and fruit set were terrific and unaffected by the significant rainfall in November.

The summer months were to be reasonably dry, and January warmer than average. February daily maximum temperatures were cooler than average however daily minimum temperatures (overnight lows) were higher than average. These higher overnight lows meant the vines were ripening at a good, consistent rate and optimum grape maturity was reached a little earlier. The vineyard was entirely hand picked with each parcel of fruit carefully selected. An excellent year, similar in character to 2010.



<b>Variety</b>	100% Shiraz
<b>Region</b>	Heathcote Victoria (Drummonds Lane)
<b>Harvested</b>	23 February – 6 March
<b>Alcohol</b>	14%
<b>Titr. Acidity</b>	6.5
<b>pH</b>	3.63
<b>Clones</b>	BVRC12, BVRC30, ESA3021, PT23, SA1654, SA1127
<b>Barrel</b>	15 months, 100% French, 20% new
<b>Winemaker</b>	Tom Carson, Chris Forge
<b>Viticulturist</b>	Vin Harrop

### **Winemaking**

Our five individual blocks and their various sections were handled separately in the winery and vintage 2012 created 16 unique batches of wine. The grapes were fermented in a combination of open and closed fermenters after gentle destemming, with some batches receiving whole bunches. The wines were then pressed and transferred immediately into French Oak barrels (20% new 300L) for malolactic fermentation. Racked three times during maturation, bottled July 2013.

### **Tasting note**

Extremely perfumed with layers of red and black fruits. The wine is pristine and poised with floral notes, tar, gun flint and exceptional concentration and purity. The palate is seamless and plush, loaded with fruit texture and beautifully ripe tannins. At 5 years of age this wine is starting to unfurl. From the exceptional 2012 vintage.

**95 points – James Halliday Wine Companion**