

# ALPHA CRUCIS

McLAREN VALE

2016 SHIRAZ



## TASTING NOTE

**Varietal:** Shiraz

**Vintage:** 2016

**Region:** McLaren Vale

**Vineyards:** Gateway vineyard and Hickenbotham vineyard

## OUR STORY

Chalk Hill was established in 1964 by the Harvey family. The first release of our Alpha Crucis wines was from the 2008 vintage. Alpha Crucis is the brightest star in the Southern Cross constellation, and these are the star wines of our vineyards.

## THE WINE

**Aroma:** An aromatic wine with lifted dark cherry and plum fruits, layers of chocolate, spice and nuts.

**Taste:** A concentrated and textured wine with layers of dark fruits – plums and dark cherry, combine with milk and dark chocolate notes. The finish is long with hints of roasted nuts, truffles and liquorice all lingering.

**Cellaring:** Decant upon opening in the first 5 years. Will cellar well for 6-8 years or more in good conditions.

## VINTAGE 2016

Spring was warm and dry in the lead up to vintage. Below average fruit set in the Gateway vineyard meant the yields were down. It was on track to be an early vintage, but some rain in late January slowed the vineyards down and ensured flavour development caught up to the ripening grapes.

## WINEMAKING

The hand-picked fruit spent 3 days cold soaking (after processing) ensuring the wine has full flavour and colour. The wine was then transferred to open fermenters for 12 days. We handle the wine very gently as we like to maintain the integrity of the fruit and its structure. The wine is then transferred to a combination of French oak puncheons and hogsheads, 40% of which are new, for 15 months.

## ANALYSIS

ALC: 14.27%

Acidity: 6.48g/ltr

PH: 3.42

