



HICKINBOTHAM

CLARENDON VINEYARD

Hickinbotham Clarendon Vineyard covers a steep cut of country from the ridgetops above the village of Clarendon to the Onkaparinga River in the gorge below. Since its establishment in 1971, the Hickinbotham Vineyard has become a part of Australia's wine heritage, supplying fruit to produce many of Australia's greatest wines. Breathing new life into this historic vineyard, winemakers Chris Carpenter and Peter Fraser are forging a new era of Hickinbotham's prestigious legacy: building upon and honouring the vineyard's acclaimed pedigree.

THE REVIVALIST

MERLOT

MCLAREN VALE

— 2017 —

2017 was a cooler year in McLaren Vale. The carryover from the 2016 rains into a perfect spring and then a cooler ripening season was ideal for Bordeaux varieties that need time on the vine to develop phenolic flavor rather than sugar, while maintaining acidity and structure. The 2017 Merlot with hints of olive tapenade, dark cherry meets ripe plum, a little smoky oak and dialed in texture is an example of Hickinbotham terroir at its best.

CRAFTING THE WINE

Merlot Blocks 103, 203-204-205 (93%), Petit Verdot Block 106 (7%)

Hand picked, destemmed and whole berry sorted with light berry breaking to open fermentation. A 4 day cold soak, pumped over daily with minimum 21 days on skins. Basket pressed with light pressings added back to free-run, hard pressings separate. Racked 3 times over 15 months prior to bottling with individual barrel selection. Matured in a selection of new and old Bordeaux coopered barrels.

WINEMAKER

Chris Carpenter

HARVESTED

3rd & 13th April, 2017

DETAILS

93% Merlot, 7% Petit Verdot

Alcohol: 14% | TA: 6.4 | pH: 3.60 | 600 cases

ACCLAIM

96 points - Ned Goodwin, *Halliday Wine Companion*, August 2019