



## THE BALLASTER 2016 CABERNET SAUVIGNON McLAREN VALE

*The uncommon term for arguably the most important person on early sailing ships was the “Ballaster”. Responsible for loading the ship in such a way that she would stay upright, they became legendary in port and at sea. This wine is a tribute to the hard work, love and dedication of our mother Marie Shaw, who has kept the Shaw Family Vintners’ ship steady since she and Richard planted their first vines in McLaren Vale in 1976.*

*Fittingly, great Cabernet Sauvignons display beautiful balance and this is the best example we make. Selected from 65 year old McLaren Vale vines, we matured this wine in French Oak hogsheads for two years.*

*Cherry and mint aromas, along with chocolate oak abound, carrying through to the full round palate, finishing with smooth velvety tannins. It’s one to add balance and grace to your cellar for seven to ten years, perhaps even longer.*

ALCOHOL 15.0%

### VINTAGE 2016

Cool, dry spring and early summer conditions through to the end of January allowed the whites to develop great flavours and high acidity. The cool, dry conditions became humid and sub-tropical in the last week of January, as an uncharacteristic tropical low sat over the lower Fleurieu Peninsula. Harvesting of the reds was completed in the first week of April. Wine produced from the vintage are shaping up as soft with good length and depth. 2016 Currency Creek vintage will be remembered as a challenging vintage, but one which delivered some exceptional parcels of wine.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Sourced from 70 year old vines in McLaren Vale, this fruit is beautifully balanced which translates into the finished wine.

Hand-picked and de-stemmed into a stainless steel fermenter where fermentation occurred for approximately 10 days.

The wine was then matured in 40% new and older French oak for 24 months before bottling and release.