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2013 KALLESKE MERCHANT CABERNET SAUVIGNON

In 1838, merchant and miller, Johann Georg Kalleske migrated from Prussia, establishing a new life in South Australia. Today, seven generations later, descendant and fellow merchant and miller, Kym John Kalleske, farms our diverse Kalleske property established at Greenock in the North-Western Barossa in 1853. Continuing the family tradition, Kym is a miller of hay and a merchant of chaff, lamb and grapes. This Merchant Cabernet Sauvignon is a single vineyard wine that's been hand pruned and harvested by Kym. Traditional winemaking and eighteen months in barrel has ensured a full-bodied varietal Cabernet Sauvignon displaying classic structure and richness typical of the Kalleske vineyard.

GROWING SEASON

Vintage 2013 was a great quality year. However, yields were very low as a result of a very dry season, with less than half the normal growing season rainfall. It was also warmer than average with the dry and warm conditions resulting in vintage being three weeks earlier than normal. Importantly though, quality was amazing. Wines are rich, mouthfilling and extremely lengthy.

VINEYARD

Merchant Cabernet Sauvignon is sourced from a single vineyard that was planted on the Kalleske property at the end of last century. The hand-pruned vines are low-yielding and are grown in shallow, sandy loam soil over superb deep red clay, providing ideal conditions for Cabernet Sauvignon.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were picked on March 13th and then destemmed into an open top fermenter. The must was fermented for ten days on skins with hand pump-overs twice a day. After pressing off skins the Cabernet was filled to a mix of 30% new and the balance used French oak hogsheads, where the wine underwent natural malolactic fermentation. The Cabernet was matured in barrel for eighteen months prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Merchant Cabernet 2013 is deep purple-red in colour. Aromatics jump from the glass indicating a classy, inviting and varietal Cabernet. There are characters of violet, blackcurrant, liquorice, cedar, clove and a hint of dark chocolate. The lively medium-full bodied palate is equally as inviting. Up-front fresh ripe fruit leads to subtle oak complexity balanced with a layered structure. The natural tannins are solid and prominent but integrated and will add great longevity. This wine is powerful but controlled resulting in great balance. The finish is extremely lengthy and completes a complex and sophisticated wine. Merchant is a classic Barossa Cabernet that can be equally enjoyed now or in a decade.



This wine is 100% Organic /
Biodynamic as certified by
Australian Certified Organic.

BAROSSA