

# TYRRELL'S



## WINEMAKER'S SELECTION VAT 9 SHIRAZ 2021

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### Vineyard

Sourced from the best parcels on the Tyrrell Estate 'Ashmans'. These vines have a minimum age of 50 years, and are grown in red clay soils over limestone. Weinkeller and the Short Flat make up the majority of the Vat 9 blend.

### Vintage Conditions

The autumn and winter months of 2020 saw the worst drought in a generation be broken with substantial rainfall, we led into an outstanding growing season for the 2021 vintage. A cool summer then gave us even, stress-free ripening with some heat around Australia Day that was perfectly timed at the final stages of ripening. With an early budburst and later than normal harvesting, the fruit had a longer than normal hang time, which meant that all of the fruit had wonderful flavours balanced by a high natural acidity.

### Winemaker's Notes

Handpicked and sorted in the vineyard in the second week of February, the blocks were all kept separate and fermented in the open top vats. The individual wines were then matured in mostly newer French oak casks (2700L) until the Vat 9 blend was assembled in November 2021. The blend was then matured for a further five months before bottling.

### Tasting Notes

Vibrant purple in colour, a regal nose showing lifted spice, dark fruits and subtle hint of oak. The palate is medium-bodied showing great intensity and the velvety texture that is seen in the best wines from this vintage. The palate structure is effortless with no rough edges showing wonderful balance of fruit, acid, oak and tannin.

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**Date Picked** 11 - 19 February 2021 | **Date Bottled** 4 May 2022

**Alc** 13.5% | **pH** 3.40 | **TA** 6.35 g/L

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## THE STORY OF WINEMAKER'S SELECTION

Murray Tyrrell created the Winemaker's Selection range back in 1965, when, with the assistance of Len Evans, he set out to determine the best wines from each vintage. He named these wines after the casks in which they were matured; for instance, the first Chardonnay we made went into cask number 47, so it became Vat 47 Chardonnay, or Pinot Chardonnay as it was then called. In 1974, having discovered that we had up to six casks from the same vineyard block that all tasted much the same, we brought the selection down to about 12 wines in total – a mixture of whites and reds. The early 2000s saw a further consolidation with the inauguration of the Sacred Sites range and the expansion of our Single Vineyard program. Today, the Winemaker's Selections are estate-grown on the various blocks that form the wines that we believe best represent our land and house style. These wines are only bottled in years when we believe that the quality is high enough to meet our exacting standards.