

CELLAR RESERVE  
BAROSSA VALLEY  
GRENACHE  
2016



**OVERVIEW** Penfolds Cellar Reserve wines are alternative, limited release wines that explore the innovative boundaries of viticulture, vinification and style. Penfolds Cellar Reserve Grenache is sourced from low yielding old vines, dry-grown in the ancient soils of the Barossa Valley. It has been a long wait for this wine, the last Cellar Reserve Grenache was made in 2002. The mild summer weather leading into the harvest of 2016 provided optimal conditions for ripening this mercurial varietal. Our patience has been rewarded.

**GRAPE VARIETY** Grenache

**VINEYARD REGION** Barossa Valley

**WINE ANALYSIS** Alc/Vol: 14.9%, Acidity: 5.5 g/L, pH: 3.70

**MATURATION** 10 months in seasoned French oak

**VINTAGE CONIDITIONS** The start of the growing season was approximately one week late, with budburst and shoot growth relatively even across the region. Flowering started in October and lasted approximately one week. Spring and summer were very dry with rainfall well below long term average. The mild “Indian” summer with a lack of extreme heat ensured the fruit could ripen evenly and develop desirable flavours and highly perfumed aromatics, especially favourable conditions for Grenache.

**COLOUR** A lustrous ruby red

**NOSE** Fragrant red liquorice and star anise immediately escape the bottle when opened. The grenache vibrancy is obvious with primary youthfulness a hero element ... an instant allure! Blackberry and mulberry fruits develop, berry leafiness ties in seamlessly. Cardamom, fresh fennel and caraway seed provide intrigue once the wine is energetically swirled.

**PALATE** A velvet-like plushness fills the palate. Notes of honey roasted beetroot, glazed carrots, spring roasted vegetables ... the palate continues to expand! Exotic thyme, mustard seeds and African spices pepper the palate.... Bright cherry vibrancy and cranberry succulence ... the most obvious varietal hallmarks. Pithy tannins focus the palate and oak barely mentioned. In fact, not even once.

**PEAK DRINKING** Now - 2028

**LAST TASTED** October 2017

*Penfolds*