OVERVIEW
Bin 2 was first released in 1960, yet was discontinued in Australia in the 1970s at the height of the white wine boom. The original Bin 2 was an ‘Australian Burgundy’ style (despite its Rhône varieties) – typically a soft, medium-bodied wine based on Shiraz. The Bin 2 blend of Shiraz and Mourvèdre is still relatively uncommon in Australian table wines. Also known as Mataro or Monastrell, Mourvèdre was introduced to Australia in the 1830s. Sometimes used in fortified wine production, this grape is widely planted in the Barossa Valley. It is greatly valued by winemakers for its blending attributes, adding complexity and palate grip. Interest in Bin 2 has grown as the popularity of traditional Rhône varieties and blends continues to flourish.

GRAPE VARIETY
89% Shiraz 11% Mourvèdre

VINEYARD REGION
Barossa Valley, McLaren Vale and Padthaway

WINE ANALYSIS
Alc/Vol: 14.5%, Acidity: 6.2 g/L, pH: 3.64

MATURATION
10 months in seasoned French and American oak

VINTAGE CONDITIONS
Winter rainfall was lower than the long-term average for most parts of South Australia. Variable conditions continued through the period from October to December, merging to a mild summer, with a few short periods of heat. The mild daytime temperatures and cool evenings across most of the ripening period, allowed for impressive flavour development, without inflated baumés. Balanced canopies matched fruit load, providing even yet not too speedy ripening. Warm dry conditions continued throughout harvest with fruit picked in optimal condition. Smaller berry and bunch sizes were noticeable in most regions and this, coupled with favourable weather conditions, saw great results for some quality markers – colour, tannin profile, fruit concentration and flavour depth.

COLOUR
Deep plum red

NOSE
Inviting. Lifted aromatics hovering above – sweet yeast bun, fresh liqueurice. Red curranted fruits, sour cherry, fresh quince… A ‘trifled’ vinous chromatogram – jelly/custard/coconut!

PALATE
Expansive (for a Bin 2!). Only a fleeting suggestion of background oak. Tea-leaf/talc tannins… fathered by Shiraz or Mourvèdre?? Savoury and characterful flavours charmingly mesh with those reminiscent of Jamaican rainised dark chocolate.

PEAK DRINKING
Now – 2020

LAST TASTED
November 2013

BIN 2 SHIRAZ MOURVÈDRE
2012

“A medium-bodied, textbook example of a modern-era Penfolds Bin 2… over half a century after its genesis.”

“Ideal by the glass… showy in youth, relaxed with bottle age.”

PETER GAGO
PENFOLDS CHIEF WINEMAKER