

# PAXTON

## CRACKER BARRELS

McLAREN VALE  
2016



At Paxton Wines, we have been nurturing our family owned vineyards in McLaren Vale, South Australia, since 1979. We are leaders in organic and biodynamic winemaking.

David Paxton (Viticulturist) and Richard Freebairn (Winemaker) have combined their decades of experience, and by embracing biodynamic and organic practices (fully certified since 2011), are producing the healthiest of vines.

Through the use of natural preparations and composts, the soil and vine are able to find the perfect balance. The end result is exceptionally pure fruit and "Wines with Life".

VARIETY: 52% Shiraz and 48% Cabernet Sauvignon

COLOUR: Deep red and purple hues

AROMA: A vibrant Cabernet Sauvignon lift of cinnamon, dark chocolate, cardamom, smoked paprika and a touch of peppermint spice.

PALATE: Full bodied wine with the vibrant front palate of Cabernet Sauvignon and juicy Shiraz mid palate. This wine has a sophisticated tannin structure combined with the French oak and seamless fruit profile lines to finish bold and energetic on the palate.

CELLARING: This wine can be enjoyed young, however, careful cellaring for 10-30 years will be rewarded.

VINTAGE: 2016 was a very strong year in McLaren Vale. After 6 months without rain, we had 40mm in the first week of February. This slowed down the baumes and allowed the acidity to catch up, therefore giving the fruit fantastic flavour equilibrium. Berry numbers were high due to an even veraison, which lead to the highest quality crops and tonnages this millennium.

VINIFICATION: This is the final blend each year. When tasting through the barrels, we always find one that stands out. Over the past few years we have been keeping that barrel aside - whether it be a Cabernet Sauvignon, a Jones Block Shiraz or even an EJ barrel. In 2016 the blend worked as a Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon and we ended up with four Cracker Barrels!

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

pH: 3.61

TA: 6.67g/L

Total SO<sup>2</sup>: 99ppm



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