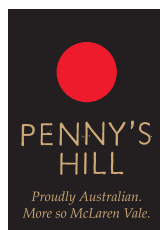


2016 PENNY'S HILL McLAREN VALE 'MALPAS ROAD' MERLOT



GROWN ON THE BLACK BAY OF BISCAY SOILS OF MALPAS ROAD VINEYARD, PENNY'S HILL 'MALPAS ROAD' MERLOT IS A WINE OF GREAT SUBTLETY, SUPPLE TANNINS AND A RICH, SMOOTH, DARK FRUIT PALATE.

VARIETALS: Merlot - 100%

REGION: McLaren Vale

VINEYARD: Planted in 1991 and added to the Penny's Hill estate vineyard group in 1993, Malpas Road is named after the pioneering Malpas family who held lands in the district originally referred to as 'Bay of Biscay', an obvious reference to the relatively infertile cracking, grey-black soil upon which our hand-tended four acre Merlot patch does its work. The fissures which occur as the black soil cracks apart sever surplus root growth, a process which naturally lessens vigour and enhances ultimate grape quality. Vines are planted on their own roots with D3V14 clone.

WINEMAKING: Destemmed then crushed, this single parcel of Merlot grapes was open fermented on skins for 7 days prior to pressing. Secondary fermentation was completed in a combination of 1 to 5 year old French oak barrels and wine was matured for 18 months prior to blending. This wine was bottled in November 2017.

THE WINE: A fragrant bouquet of bright cherry and blueberry fruit with subtle notes of red licorice, fruit spice and savoury characters. This wine shows great fruit weight and generosity, abundant with juicy dark fruits and perfectly balanced by fine, supple tannins and a soft, round, long-lasting finish.

CELLARING: Ready to drink, but will cellar for 5-8 years.

WINEMAKER: Alexia Roberts

TECH DETAILS: pH 3.4 | TA 6.5 | Alc/vol 14.5%

