

# 2011 PENNY'S HILL McLAREN VALE 'THE SPECIALIZED'



FROM A WELL ROUNDED 2011 McLAREN VALE VINTAGE, OUR ESTATE BLEND, 'THE SPECIALIZED' COMBINES A LARGE PORTION OF SHIRAZ WITH SIMILAR AMOUNTS OF CABERNET SAUVIGNON AND MERLOT FOR A WINE WHICH TYPIFIES THE REGION AT ITS BEST – LUSH FRUIT IN ABUNDANCE.

**WINEMAKER:** Ben Riggs

**VARIETALS:** Shiraz – 45%  
Cabernet Sauvignon – 32%  
Merlot – 23%

**REGION:** McLaren Vale

**VINEYARD:** Shiraz and Cabernet from the narrow-planted, high density vines of the Penny's Hill Vineyard are combined with Malpas Road Merlot found on black, cracking, 'Bay of Biscay' and brown loam soils immediately south of the Penny's Hill & Mr. Riggs Cellars. Hand-tended, the vines were harvested from March through to April 2011

**VINIFICATION:** The fruit was destemmed and crushed, prior to the varieties undergoing separate primary on-skin fermentation over 7 days. Post pressing, each variety remained separated and placed into barrel, of which 30% was new (a combination of French and American oak) with the remainder 1-2 years old. When perfect flavour and strength was reached, after only 11 months, the correct proportions of each variety were blended. The final wine was bottled on 14th November 2012

**COLOUR:** Deep, dark purple

**BOUQUET:** Ripe plum, spice and floral notes with McLaren Vale earthiness and subtle tobacco and chocolate

**PALATE:** A veritable starburst of fruit, 'The Specialized' bursts onto the palate with a lively, crunchy, berry flavour. With a harmonious balance of lovely lifted fruit supported by subtle oak, 'The Specialized' texturally shows rich, savoury tannins on a finish of splendid length. Acting as the moderator in this wine, Merlot softens off the Cabernet Sauvignon tannins and robustness of the Shiraz.

**CELLARING:** Stored carefully, 'The Specialized' will develop and improve in bottle for another 6-8 years.

**TECHNICAL DETAILS:** pH 3.43 | TA 6.9 g/L | Alc/Vol 14.5%

**PRODUCTION:** 2,750 six packs

