



## THE SCOOTER MERLOT

### 2017 Tech Sheet



#### MARQUIS FRUIT WEIGHT *Our guarantee of quality*

**Required: 65% - 75%      Actual: 66%**

Marquis Fruit Weight™ is the percentage of your palate (from the tip of your tongue going all the way back) that's covered by the velvety sensation of fruit, before you experience any of the structural components of the wine.

#### Vineyards

McLaren Vale:  
Long Gully Road

Sustainably Grown  
Picked 12th April

Barrel fermented and matured:  
92% American oak; 8% French oak  
20% new; 50% 1yr old; 30% 2yr old

Alc/Vol: 16%  
Residual sugar: 2.9  
pH: 3.53

RRP: \$30

Vegan Friendly

#### Who is **The Scooter**?

The Scooter was named after Sparky, who raced a big tire scooter when he was younger.

#### Vintage Report

With heavy rain in the McLaren Vale and Langhorne Creek regions during July, we saw a massive 31% increase in rainfall. These cold, wet conditions continued through to early summer, becoming the defining features of the 2017 vintage. Budburst and flowering were both delayed, resulting in a later harvest than normal. In the lead up to harvest there were concerns of mildew and botrytis affecting the grape quality, however due to our open canopies allowing air flow and perfect summer temperatures, our grapes were not affected.

The quality of our Verdelho crops this year was second to none. Our new early pick Verdelho, exclusive to our Cellar Door, received excellent feedback. All our red varieties produced extraordinary results, with many blocks achieving greater yields and higher Fruit Weights™ than ever before. Our total crop yield came in at 1363 tonnes, a result of the success of our Marquis Vineyard Watering Programme™.

The Fruit Weight™ and flavours needed time to develop in the vineyards before we could begin crafting the wines in the winery. Our patience was well rewarded with plenty of bright, vibrant fruit. Primary ferments were vigorous and healthy; some were cooled to 3.5c to slow down the fermentation to allow maximum colour and flavour to be extracted from the skins. 2017 was one of our biggest and most successful vintages to date.

#### Winemaker Tasting Notes

Fragrant and silky smooth, the 2017 Scooter charms the senses with a nose full of cherries and forest fruits. Fresh plum and sweet berries delight on your first sip, before giving way to spices reminiscent of nutmeg and cinnamon. Finely poised and balanced, the 2017 Scooter's delicate tannins allow complexity, making this Merlot an absolute treat.

#### Awards

2017    WS 90;  
2016    WS 90; Winestate 4 stars  
2014    Winestate 4.5 stars  
2012    Winestate 4 stars  
2010    WA 90  
2009    WA 90; South Australian Wine of the Year Awards; Winner of the Consumers Choice Award in the 'Other Reds' category  
2008    WA 90  
2007    WA 91  
2006    WA 91 and 'Excellent Value under \$25'