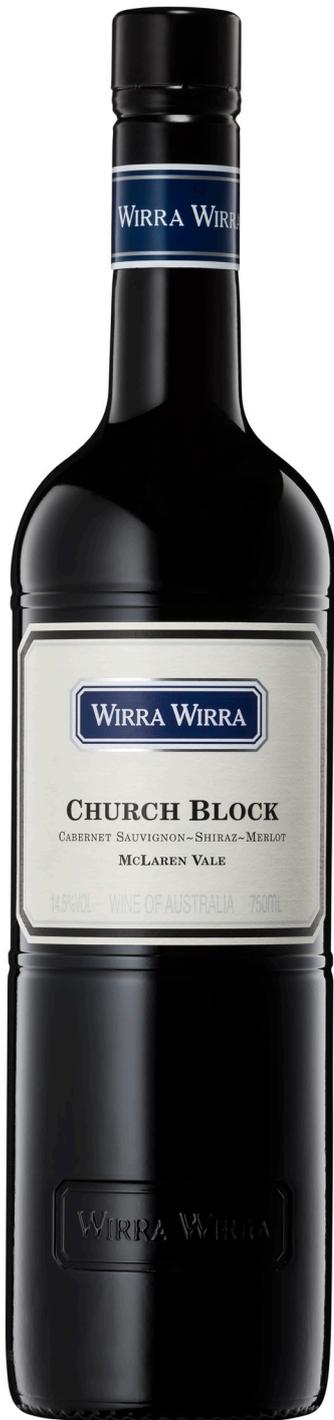


CHURCH BLOCK

Church Block was the first wine the late Greg Trott produced under the Wirra Wirra label back in 1972. He took the name from one of the original vineyards, which runs next to the small Bethany Church (est. 1854) across the road from Wirra Wirra's century old ironstone cellars. Over four decades, the Church Block label has become an Australian favourite.



Vintage

2017

Region

McLaren Vale

Grape Variety

Cabernet Sauvignon 52%, Shiraz 39%, Merlot 9%.

Colour

Deep plum with a scarlet edge.

Bouquet

Lifted red and black currants, deeper plums and black cherries, fresh-tilled earth and leaf with some spicy cedar.

Palate

Fresh red and dark fruits provide great flesh and depth to a long, even palate. Grainy tannins and cedary oak add structural support and line to the rich fruit.

Drink

From release and up to 15 years from vintage.

Food Match

Roasted lamb rack with vegetable gratin.

Vineyards

Wirra Wirra sources fruit from a combination of premium McLaren Vale growers.

Oak Maturation

Combination of French (70%) and American oak (30%) barriques & hogsheads of which 10% is new oak.

Vinification

Fruit was gently crushed and destemmed prior to commencing fermentation where fermentation temperatures were kept at 20-22 degrees celcius, rising to 25-28 degrees at peak of ferment. Ferments were pumped over two to four times daily to assist in flavour and colour extraction, and to monitor and control fermentation temperature. Nearing completion and having achieved the desired flavour and tannin extraction, pump-overs were reduced to once or twice daily to keep the cap of the skins and seeds moist. At approximately 1-2°Baume, the wine from the fermenter was drained, and the remaining skins were pressed via tank or basket press. Wines completed Malolactic fermentation in tank or barrel as individual vineyard parcels and matured in oak before blending.

Technical Details

pH 3.61 T.A. 6.2g/L ALC 14.5%

Winemakers

Paul Smith, Tom Ravech and Kelly Wellington



WIRRA WIRRA VINEYARDS

McMurtrie Road, (PO Box 145), McLaren Vale SA 5171 | P: +61 (0)8 8323 8414
www.wirrawirra.com info@wirra.com.au

Paul T Smith
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