

## RIFLE RANGE CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2017

At Rockford we're committed to keeping the best of the traditional Australian wine trade alive and sharing this with our customers.

One of the Barossa's great strengths is the diversity, consistency and quality of the grapes delivered annually by its independent vignerons. Their knowledge, tenacity and commitment to the land have ensured the Barossa's viticultural prosperity.

Rifle Range Road which runs parallel to Krondorf Road, is in the heart of the Valley Floor and winds its way up the hills to Kaiser Stuhl National Park. The old rifle range is long gone, but the farming land and vineyards that have always been part of the landscape are still there. Because most of our Cabernet Sauvignon comes from vineyards adjacent to Rifle Range Road, it seemed the most appropriate name for this wine which has been part of Rockford since the very beginning.

Although the wine shows typical varietal and regional characteristics, it also has the Rockford philosophy at its core – a rich, soft and full flavoured wine made using traditional wine making techniques and attitude.

Going into vintage 2017 we were confident the Cabernet would be a highlight because it had been a cool season and that is when Cabernet is at its finest. When fruit began arriving at the winery, it exceeded our high expectations. In the grape growing world, above average yields and quality don't always end up in the same sentence, but in 2017 this was the case. This rare occurrence gave us the opportunity to buy more fruit from our growers and fulfil our long-term plan to release one vintage of Rifle Range over a span of two years. From then on, you'll be buying a four-year-old wine with a year's bottle age.

