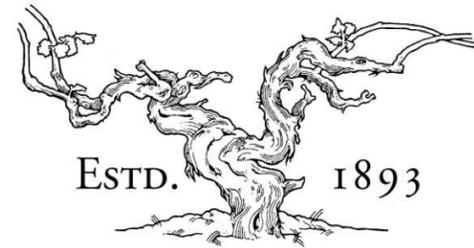


OLD BASTARD

KAESLER



Old Bastard 2018

The release of the 2018 Old Bastard celebrates the 125th Anniversary of the vineyard. An incredible milestone for any vigneron. The Old Bastard name given to the wine is in honour of these gnarly old vines. Nurturing these beautiful old vines presents challenges each year and with a combination of regenerative farming practices, two decades working the vineyard and a deep respect for Mother Nature, spectacular wines will be made.

Regenerative Farming

It wasn't until 2018 when we found a name for the agricultural focus we had been practicing, Regenerative Farming. Until then it had been an unconscious practice, driven by our viticulturist and winemakers who are obsessed with leaving the land in better condition than they found it. It's a process that has been constantly evolving for close to 20 years. It's more than Sustainability. The result isn't to sustain the environment; it is to improve it.

Example of *Regenerative Farming* in the Old Bastard vineyard. *In 2002 soil testing showed organic carbon of 0.3%, now due to our regenerative farming practices we have increased that to 1.4%, by introducing permanent pastures and widening the crop from a traditional size by one metre. This is a massive improvement. Despite each year the vines depleting the carbon, we managed in remove carbon from the atmosphere and return it to the soil.*



LANGTONS CLASSIFICATION - OUTSTANDING

The best of Australian winemaking practices, vineyard provenance and regional voice. The Old Bastard - One of 46 wines featured in this classification.



JAMES SUCKLING.COM

97 points. Nick Stock.

From a single parcel of 1893 vines on the estate. Very deep blackberry, blueberry and dark-plum aromas here with plenty of sweetly spiced oak that's already integrated. The palate has a very rich, open and soft feel with long tannins winding the finish out very long. Blue fruit and blackcurrants with a striking, blood plum-flavored finish. Drink or hold.

The Real Review

97 points. Huon Hooke

Deep, dark red-purple colour. The bouquet showing sweet red and black licorice, mocha and plum conserve aromas, sweet squishy blackberry as well, the oak evident but well harmonised even at this tender age. The palate is very full-bodied, powerful, concentrated and penetrating. Mocha and bitter dark chocolate on the palate, which is tremendously intense and long. A cracking wine with a big future. (Vines planted in 1893, so 125 old this vintage. 90% new oak).

THE WINEFRONT WWW.WINEFRONT.COM.AU

95 points The Wine Front, Mike Bennie

Lush, supple, rich and yet fresh feeling. Choc-berries, soft though, some cocoa powder, choc-liquorice, saline mineral notes, feathery tannins and bright acidity. It rolls with authority, a sense of vibrancy, lift, long and fine. Elegant and a sense of reserve, wonderful, silky texture. Quite the triumph. 95 points, 2021-2040

winepilot.com

95 Points The Wine Pilot, Angus Hughson

I don't know if it is the name, or the label, but the Old Bastard Shiraz certainly has a reputation as being one of those BIG Barossans. But I sense a change in 2018, and a move to more understated wines, yet still with that Kaesler generosity of fruit. Bold but sleek at the same time, it still comes from the same spot - vines that celebrated their 125th birthday in 2018, which are located just behind the winery outside of Nuriootpa.

It is deep ruby in colour but not black as night and opens up with quite savoury aromatics - meaty, tarry, liquorice scented fruits freshened by dark cherry. There is a good dose of very classy oak in the mix too which sits comfortably with that fruit. The palate then shows layers of dense, darker fruits supported by moderate tannins to provide a long and balanced finish. There is an inner-strength to this wine, which is probably a little young right now, that provides plenty of ageing potential for those that can keep their hands off it. Angus Hughson

