

SERAFINO

SHARKTOOTH

McLAREN VALE

The *Fruit*

For our flagship Shiraz we bunch-thinned the best rows of fruit from Our Willunga Sharktooth vineyard, named after the giant fossilised Megalodon tooth discovered there in the 1980s. This prehistoric ancestor of the Great White Shark measured some 25 metres in length. The fruit averaged 3 tonnes per acre, and picking was completed by 8th March.

The *Winemaking*

The fruit was picked at 14.5 Baume, with shrinkage maximizing the flavournoids. Harvesting took place in the early morning, within the hour the fruit is destemmed and crushed, allowing a portion of full berries through by removing the rollers intermittently. The crushed fruit and whole berries were pumped into the must chiller, cooled to 4 degrees Celsius then cold soaked for 2-3 days. The must was warmed to allow the indigenous yeast to commence fermentation then a selected cultured yeast added for the majority of the fermentation process. Using small 5 tonne open fermenters the juice is then pumped over the skins and berries 3 times a day to extract colour and flavour. The fermenting must is racked and returned twice during this 8 day period. After the primary ferment is complete we place heading down boards over the cap to ensure it is pushed under the juice and close the fermenter for a 30 day extended maceration, the additional skin contact builds length, structure and texture. Maturation is completed in 90% new French and 10% new American oak barrels.

The *Tasting Note*

The wine is red/black in colour, the nose displays quality cedar from the French oak, subtle vanilla from the American oak, Satsuma plum, green Peppercorn and hints of licorice. On the palate this powerful yet elegant Shiraz displays distinctive regional characters of dark chocolate, spicy red plum and mocha flavours complemented by mulberry, pepper and spice on a long textured finish. With double-decanting this beautifully structured wine is approachable now or will reward with cellaring for up to 15 years under the right conditions. Drink 2009-2021.

Serafino Sharktooth Shiraz 2007

