

Owner and winemaker Ben Glaetzer's work in Langhorne Creek is one of the most exciting stories in Australia today. Ben found and grew excited at older, high quality vineyards he had seen in the cool-climate Langhorne Creek area, Australia's oldest settled wine region, one hour south of Adelaide and southeast of McLaren Vale. With a temperature summation approximately equivalent to Alsace, the best Langhorne Creek vineyards benefit from very cool nights that offset warm days, with temperature swings that can reach nearly 40 degrees within a day, the "Lake Doctor" phenomenon. The Heartland Wines from Langhorne Creek display the originality and appeal of the area's regional and varietal characteristics – they are food-friendly, balanced wines offering tremendous value.

WINE

Directors' Cut is Heartland's most powerful expression of Langhorne Creek. The weight of fruit in this wine showcases how much Langhorne Creek Ben can fit into one bottle. An almost impenetrable core of fruit is seasoned with dark spice like licorice, nutmeg and anise.

VINEYARD

Directors' Cut vineyards are chosen for the consistent intensity and texture of the fruit.

Soils: Sandy loam soils.

Farming: These vineyards are farmed sustainably.

WINEMAKING

Vinification: Harvested at night and then crushed to small open top stainless steel fermenters. After 24 hours of skin contact fermentation was commenced with Rhône isolate yeast. Aging: 8 days of cool fermentation on skins and hand-plunging 3 times daily, the wine was transferred to French and American oak hogsheads for 14 months maturation. (100% new).

VINTAGE

Climate: 2014 followed the classic road of a late vintage. Deep soil moisture from a traditional winter flood bolstered the winery against the warm summer days, as did the cooling Langhorne Creek winds. The region was spared the late February rains that harried other regions in South Australia.

TASTING NOTE

DIRECTORS'

BERNET SAUVIGNON

LANGHORNE CREEK South Australia

2014

The 2014 vintage of Directors' Cut Cabernet Sauvignon does not lack fruit intensity and depth. However, it is the color that first attracts the attention, while the notes of spice and classic Cabernet structure dominate the aromas. The palate offers fresh blueberry, rhubarb and plum jam, with a nuanced and complex character in flavor profile and finish. This may be the longest lasting effort to date.