

# Mr. Riggs

## McLaren Vale



### Regional Series



## 2022 Mr. Riggs The Gaffer Shiraz

The Regional Series wines pay homage to whence they came. The aim of all Mr. Riggs wines is to express the essence of the vineyards and varieties.

### History

The Gaffer is a tribute to Ben Riggs' great-great-great grandfather, John "The Gaffer" Riggs (1814-1902), who was one of South Australia's most renowned farmers. This McLaren Vale Shiraz was made to acknowledge 150 years of the Riggs family's rich farming heritage in South Australia. Since 2006 The Gaffer Shiraz has worn its pink cap in acknowledgement of our partnership with the Flinders Foundation and their fight against cancer. Mr. Riggs Wine Co. has proudly donated over \$220,000 towards cancer research through proceeds of the sales of The Gaffer.

### Vineyard

The fruit for "The Gaffer" has been sourced from five vineyards; Martins, Gateway, John Rivers, Tim Hunts and Piebald Gully vineyard. All in different sub-regions of McLaren Vale; from the warmest, earliest picked vineyards to the coolest, latest picked vineyards. Blending the sub-regions together brings out the best of the variety and is key to the iconic Gaffer style.

### Vintage

The region's mild summer and warm autumn resulted in a gentle and slow ripening period and delayed harvest, producing outstanding fruit. Grape picking took eight weeks to complete, beginning at full pace in the first week of March and ending in the second week of April. Rainfall was below average, and yields overall were generally lower than those of 2021. Regional 2022 red wines have intense, rich and balanced flavours and colours, while whites are showing pretty aromatics and natural acidity.

### Winemaking

All components of The Gaffer are kept separate throughout the winemaking process. Throughout fermentation the fruit is left on skins for 7 - 10 days, all in 5 tonne open fermenters. The wine is then matured in oak, 90% French and 10% American. The wine is then carefully blended just before bottling, and only the best components are used to make the classic Gaffer style.

### Tasting Note

The Gaffer Shiraz is a testament to the best of McLaren Vale. A medium weight Shiraz, the style of The Gaffer is soft, flavoursome, and fruit driven. Distinctive McLaren Vale characteristics shine through with a spine of sweet, soft, warm tannins whilst on the palate is crunchy, bright, red berries. A wine worth sharing with good friends to help raise funds for a great cause.

### Technical Details

pH:	3.54
TA:	6.11
Alc/Vol:	14.5%
Bottling date:	20th March 2024
Winemaker:	Ben Riggs