

*Uncle Shiraz Cabernet Merlot*



## 2014 UNCLE SHIRAZ CABERNET MERLOT

WillowBend is where it all started for us. Way back in 1990, Ken and I put our first red blend of Shiraz, Merlot, and Cabernet together and packaged it under what was then our WillowBend brand. Our idea has always been to produce a consistently full and flavoursome wine by blending the varieties that perform best on our “St. Jakobi” family vineyard, the property purchased by my grandfather Oscar Semmler in the 1930s.

In 1998 we changed our brand from WillowBend to “Dutschke” and introduced a couple of straight varietal Shiraz wines deciding to continue with our red blend as Dutschke “WillowBend”. With a stunning Merlot resting in barrels from the 2012 Vintage we introduced a straight Merlot and chose to give the blend a break.

Having missed our blend over the recent years we are pleased again to have a red blend back in our range. Rather than WillowBend this time, we have named it “Uncle”. Using the same grape varieties from the same vineyard blocks, the 2014 Uncle is a mix of Shiraz (36%), Cabernet (35%) and Merlot (29%). They come together to provide a round soft red berry fruit palate and fine oak and fruit tannin support that allows the wine to be enjoyed as a younger wine, but also has the structure needed for medium to long term cellaring.

After years in the bottle our older “WillowBend” blends have shown to develop complex characters while still maintaining their fresh fruit flavours. The “Uncle” is of course no different. It is a great wine to drink now, but will also benefit further by lying it down for a few years.

We trust you’ll enjoy it!

<b>Winemaker:</b>	Wayne Dutschke
<b>Vineyard:</b>	Ken Semmler’s St. Jakobi Vineyard
<b>Region:</b>	Lyndoch, Barossa Valley, South Australia
<b>Harvest Date:</b>	Shiraz 14th March, Cabernet 19th March and Merlot 14th March 2014
<b>Varietal Percentages:</b>	36% Shiraz, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon and 29% Merlot.
<b>Alcohol:</b>	14.5%
<b>Oak Maturation:</b>	20 months in New and Older French and American Hogsheads
<b>Cellaring potential:</b>	Drink now to 2024