

Peter Lehmann Masters,  
**`Mentor` Barossa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2018**  
Barossa Valley, South Australia, Australia



Grape Varieties **95% Cabernet Sauvignon**  
**5% Malbec**

Winemaker **Nigel Westblade**

Closure **Stelvin Lux**

ABV **14.5%**

Residual Sugar **0.49g/L**

Acidity **7.35g/L**

Wine pH **3.53**

Notes **Vegetarian**

## PRODUCER

Peter Lehmann founded his eponymous winery in 1979, partly as a means of helping with the glut of grapes then afflicting the Barossa. "I'll take your grapes and turn them into wine," he told the desperate growers, many of them conservative farmers of Silesian descent who regarded their old vines as part of their patrimony. "But I'll only be able to pay you when I sell the wine." They gratefully accepted. Without this deal, it is widely believed that the Barossa would have lost a large swathe of its old vines. The crisis passed, in large part thanks to Peter's energy and vision, and the Lehmann winery became one of the Barossa's and Australia's most outstanding and historic wineries.

The 'Masters' wines are made from the parcels regarded by the winemakers as the best Semillon, Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz of the vintage.

## VINEYARDS

Peter Lehmann mentored countless people over his 50-year career, and this wine is named in his honour. Fruit was selected from premium vineyards from a number of Barossa in Vine Vale, Stockwell, Nuriootpa & Ebenezer sub-regions. A small percentage of Langhorne Creek Malbec was used in the final blend as a structural element. These vineyards are all planted with old vines which yield a very low amount of fruit.

## VINTAGE

After reasonable winter and spring rainfall, soil moisture was adequate during the growing season and The Barossa's vineyards exhibited healthy canopies heading into summer. January and February were warm and dry, with very warm temperatures in February slowing down the pace of ripening. Vintage really ramped up in March, with the majority of cabernet grapes being picked during this period. For the first time since possibly 2012, the winemaking team was spoilt for choice when it came to high quality valley floor cabernet. A combination of balanced yields, healthy canopies and cool nights in the lead up to harvest all contributed to cabernet from the 2018 vintage being one to remember.

## VINIFICATION

The grapes were fermented and macerated on skins for up to two weeks with some partial barrel fermentation. Following pressing and clarification, the wine was matured in French oak hogsheads for 15 months, of which 45% were new, and the remainder 2-3 years old.

## TASTING NOTES

The 2018 Mentor is a rich, deep garnet coloured wine that exhibits a bouquet of violet and cassis and a touch of vanilla and dark chocolate. The palate shows all the hallmarks of a fine Barossa cabernet sauvignon, with blackcurrant notes and firm tannins, finishing with great length.

## AWARDS

Decanter World Wine Awards 2022, Silver