

**Benchmark by Grant Burge**, is the epitome of a great wine from South Australia. The name sets the high standard of quality, style and taste of the wine, which others strive to attain.

Grant selects only the best parcels of grapes to make this premium, fruit-driven wine with excellent balance, which can be enjoyed without years of cellaring and offers excellent value, quality and consistency.

#### **THE FRUIT**

An excellent growing season allowed maximum development of varietal Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz characters and concentration of flavours. The blend is made up of 55% Cabernet and 45% Shiraz, with a large portion of the fruit harvested from growers in the Barossa, and the remainder from respected premium growers in South Australia's Riverland.

#### **THE WINEMAKING**

The fruit was crushed and de-stemmed, before fermentation could begin in stainless steel tanks for seven days. After malolactic fermentation was complete, the wine was transferred to American and French oak hogsheads for maturation for 12 months before blending and bottling.

## *(2005 Benchmark CABERNET SHIRAZ)*

*The 2005 Benchmark Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz is vibrant and youthful with deep purple hues. The wine has complex aromas of black cherries and black currant, spices and ripe raspberries which carry over to the palate, which is generous with soft, dry tannins, well integrated oak and savoury spice.*

*This delicious wine is ideal for every day drinking and is an excellent companion to barbequed meats and rich tomato dishes.*

