

Tscharke

Shiraz Shiraz Shiraz
2018



VINTAGE REPORT

The 2018 growing season had a reasonable start with adequate rainfall through winter and early spring. Healthy canopies were established across all sites and the dry and warm conditions of late January and February kept weeds and disease pressures to a low. February proved to be a very warm month which stalled ripening and it wasn't until the relief of a mild March that the outlook for a great harvest looked imminent.

The late Indian summer enhanced the quality of late picked varieties such as Mataro, Grenache, Montepulciano and Cabernet. 2018 came off the back of two big vintages so it was no surprise this harvest was likely to be down on average with most crops down by 20-25%. The wines produced were very balanced, had ripe phenolics and display vibrant mid palate weight, a spectacular vintage for good structure and elegance.

VINEYARD

This is a blend of our family's three estate vineyards, aptly named Shiraz Shiraz Shiraz. The three sites are located on the Western ridge of Barossa Valley, in the sub-regions of Marananga and Seppeltsfield. The gentle rugged terrain gives rise to unique growing aspects together with the oldest soils of the Barossa Valley. This wine brings about complexity derived from blending, delivering a persistent yet very smooth palate.

WINEMAKING

Early harvesting helps retain freshness, natural acidity and encourages a balanced wine without the higher alcohol. The fruit was destemmed into concrete and open top fermenters. After a warm 10 day ferment, the wine was pressed, racked off gross lees and allowed to undergo malolactic fermentation [MLF] in tank. Following MLF the wines were racked, sulphured and élevage for a further 15 months in a combination of large (6600L) oak vats and seasoned French hogsheads before the final blend was assembled and bottled.

TASTING NOTES

This is a balanced and approachable wine, with a rather complex bouquet of floral and fresh forest fruit complemented by a dustier and more savoury secondary layer derived from the élevage in large vats. On the palate vibrant flavours of blackberry, plum, dark cherry, fresh spices and peppery undertones provide a refreshing display of Shiraz flavours. Persistent yet subtle tannins to finish. This blend will continue to drink well until 2023.

Vintage	2018
Vineyard	Stone Well, Gnadednfrei and Greenock Creek
Variety	100% Shiraz
Alcohol	15% / vol.
pH	3.63
Titrateable Acidity	6.14 g / L