

FAT OF THE LAND

2015 Shiraz From a Single Vineyard in
Greenock in the Barossa Valley

Grab

A spicy complex expression of Barossa Shiraz

Spiel

The Barossa is an amazing place with a diverse history from which a great community has grown living off the Fat of the Land. Famed for its Shiraz vineyards, some dating back to the 19th century, the wines from this small, but proud region are as unique and divergent as its history and community. One can make such varied expressions of Shiraz, due to the different meso-climates of each subregion, the elevation range, and the myriad of soil types that are to be found throughout the Barossa. The Fat of the Land series seeks to showcase the sub regions of the Barossa, and the contrasting styles of Shiraz that can be made here.

Colour

Dark plum

Bouquet

Lifted black fruit and Bloody Mary aromas with complexing floral notes and hints of cinnamon and Chinese spices

Palate

Broad, mouthfilling black fruit and mocha mid palate with floury tannins, and complex favours of wet stone / slate with a hint of cedar and leather. Enigmatic like Humphrey Bogart

Grub Match

Saddle of venison with wild mushroom fricassee and Armagnac cream; roast duck breast with cinnamon and honey

Cellaring

An ethereal wine for the intellectual, so ponder now, or in 10 to 15 years

Vintage

A condensed vintage with full fat flavour! A warmer than usual spring led to an early, yet even flowering and fruit set. Together with a dry season, this led to an early start to vintage despite mild conditions and welcome rainfall in January. With harvest progressing quickly, it was clear that yields were variable, but the wines showed full flavours. Low yielding BV Shiraz was rich, 'modern classical' and MV Cab was varietal and structured (reminiscent of 2005). Yields were up in Garnacha, Monastrell, EV Shiraz and Adelaide Hills, and thus looked less primary, more savoury, with good acid (reminiscent of 2002). So the upshot is we've almost got two vintages in one, with some diverse, full flavoured wines. Lap it up!

Vineyard

Shawn's vineyard is just north east of Greenock in the north west of the Barossa -330m above sea level on clay with ironstone

Vinification

The fruit is crushed/destemmed and fermented at temperatures ranging from 20- 25°C for 10 days on skins. The ferment is managed by a variety of techniques, including 'aerative pump overs' and 'drain and returns' which assist in extracting colour, flavour and tannin from the grapes. At the end of fermentation, it is drained/pressed, and transferred to 35% new French oak hogsheads, and the balance to 3 and 4 year old French oak hogsheads to undergo MLF. Post MLF, sulphur dioxide is added, and the wines mature sur lie for 20 months. This wine was bottled unfiltered in November 2016.

