

FAT OF THE LAND

2008 Shiraz From a Single Vineyard in
Ebenezer in the Barossa Valley



Grab

A soft textured expression of Shiraz from the slurp factory of the Barossa

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 aromas with a hint of spice and black olive

Palate

Soft, textured and brimming with luscious black fruits with hints black olive and Indian spice. Rich and big breasted, like Dolly Parton.

Grub Match

Stuffed guinea fowl with a Shiraz lees reduction; roast saddle of rabbit

Cellaring

A wine for hedonists, so enjoy it now, or in 5-8 years time if you have a puritanical streak

Vintage

08 season rains were significantly below average. Some rain in September ensured sufficient soil moisture for a good budburst and strong early season growth. A short blast of very hot weather in late-December was followed by a longer period of mild temperatures through to early March with February night-time temperatures being especially cool. In early March everything changed when an unexpected heatwave starting on the 5th of March extended to thirteen consecutive days above 35°C.

But the Gods were smiling on us, as we had picked all our fruit, except our 'heat resistant Nebbiolo' (as we surprisingly discovered), by the start of the heatwave. Despite the March heatwave and the attention it attracted, 08 was arguably a slightly cooler vintage due to early ripening and the unusually mild January and February. As a result our wines are aromatic and exploding with fruit. Heatwave smeatwave!

Vineyard

Anthony's vineyard is at Ebenezer in the north of the Barossa - 296m above sea level on deep red clay

Vinification

The fruit is crushed/destemmed and fermented at temperatures ranging from 20- 25°C for 8 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 100% 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 24 months. This wine was bottled unfiltered in February 2010.

