



2004 Shiraz

Winemakers Comments:

Vintage 2004 was extremely late due to delayed tannin ripening and as a result we harvested most of our vintage in May. Typically wines from this vintage are medium weight with excellent fruit definition and tannin structure. Maturation was for 14 months in French oak from Seguin Moreau, Saury, Dargaud and Jaegle and Remond cooperages, prior to egg white fining and bottling in February 2006.

Dark crimson in colour, with deep blackberry fruit with intense white and black pepper notes on the nose. The palate is rich with black fruit and black pepper and a solid tannin backbone. Decant before drinking.

<u>Alcohol:</u>	14.5%
<u>Acidity:</u>	7.3g/l
<u>PH:</u>	3.42
<u>Residual Sugar:</u>	0.34
<u>Sulphur Dioxide:</u>	38/92 mg/l
<u>Winemaker:</u>	Peter Bissell
<u>Blend Proportions:</u>	94.8% Shiraz, 5.2% Cabernet Sauvignon
<u>Oak (Origin, Size and Age):</u>	100% French oak 50% hogsheads, 50% barriques, 20% new, 65% second, 15% third.
<u>Cellaring Potential:</u>	2 - 6 years

PRESS REVIEWS

Author: James Halliday

Publication: Wine Companion 2007 Edition

Date: August 2006

Rating: 94

“Deep colour; complex wine; spice, pepper, blackberry, plum and quality oak all coalesce on both bouquet and palate; touches of chocolate too; fine; ripe tannins. Screwcap. 14.5° alc. DRINK 2014 \$24

Author: Jeremy Oliver

Publication: The Australian Wine Annual

Rating: 4 - 95 points

“A first-rate, supple and elegant shiraz whose deep, brooding aromas of blackberries, dark plums, cassis and chocolate/cedary oak are lifted by fragrances of spice and pepper. Full to medium in weight, its long and smooth, bursting with briary flavours of dark berries and plums, and framed by powdery, fine-grained tannins. It finishes long and vibrant, with an appealing fruit sourness.”

Author: Harvey Steinman

Publication: Wine Spectator Insider

Date: Nov 15th 2006

Rating: 91 points

“Firm, with juicy blackberry and sage flavours that rev up nicely as the finish sails on and on against refreshing acidity, a hallmark of Coonawarra Shiraz.”

Drink now through 2012.

Author: Huon Hooke

Publication: Sydney Morning Herald- Good Living

Date: 15th May 2007

Rating: 92/100

“From a top Coonawarra winery comes a nicely concentrated shiraz, more fleshy and generous than usual for the region. Peppermint, nutty oak, aniseed, spice and herb inflections. Liberal tannin, nicely integrated into a long, long palate.”

Best now to 2020.

Author: Paddy Kender

Publication: Herald Sun-CityStyle (Quaffing)

Date: Tuesday, May 22nd 2007

Rating: 5/5 Unbeatable

“If Coonawarra shiraz at this reasonable and realistic price can get any better, bring it on by the truckload and I’ll pay cash. Well, I’ll see what I have left over after falling completely in love with the latest Balnaves. Superb wine, excellent balance, well-captured blackberry fruit perfectly integrated with French oak, some pepper and spice and fine tannins. A very neat package.”

Author: Neal Martin

Publication: erobertparker.com

Date: 17th July 2008

Rating: 91 points

“A deep black/purple colour. An intense nose of violets and cherries, cassis becoming more dominant with aeration. Good definition. A well defined palate, crisp, just a hint of leafiness, good acidity and a robust, quite tannic finish. Masculine for a Coonawarra, but with great class and breeding. A typical cool-climate Shiraz. Very fine indeed. Drink 2010-2018.”