

# Tasting Note

## Best's Great Western 2014 Sparkling Shiraz

Best's Great Western Sparkling Shiraz was re-introduced at Best's in 2006 after almost 30 years of absence. The sparkling Shiraz style is synonymous with Great Western and has been made in the region since the early 1900s.

Best's Sparkling Shiraz epitomises the regional characteristics with plenty of spice and plummy fruit characters. The base wine is left on yeast lees in bottle for 20 months or more and disgorged in the traditional method. The dosage liqueur for this wine contains a small quantity of very old Best's Liqueur Muscat that gives the wine an added layer of interest and complements the style.

### Technical Details

<b>Region</b>	Great Western, Victoria
<b>Grape Variety</b>	Shiraz
<b>Alcohol</b>	14.5%
<b>Winemaker</b>	Justin Purser

### Tasting Notes

<b>Colour</b>	Very dark red. An opulent purple mousse with fine bubbles.
<b>Bouquet</b>	Complex layers of aromas, blueberries, plums, black olives, potpourri, fresh bread, pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg and grilled nuts.
<b>Palate</b>	Round plush fruit flavours with notes of spice and all things nice. The savoury mouthfeel and fine bead of bubbles give this wine a long persistent finish.
<b>Cellaring</b>	This wine is great when drunk young but will soften and continue to develop complex characters in the bottle for the next 15 years or more. Drink it with a crumbly old cheddar cheese.
<b>Vintage</b>	A relatively cool season apart from a mid-summer heat wave. Good vineyard management ensured the grapes ripened fully and had lots of complex flavours and balanced acidity.



# *Tasting Note*

## *Awards & Reviews*

### **Huon Hooke Review - a rare gold 95 points!**

Deep red colour with a trace of purple. The bouquet is savoury, with dried herb and earthy notes, traces of vanilla, chocolate and spices. The wine is rich and medium to full-bodied, with appropriate mid-palate sweetness followed by drying but soft tannins and a touch of licorice. There's a pleasant touch of bitterness on the finish and aftertaste, which helps cleanse the palate. Good length and balance. Drink up to 12 years

### **James Halliday Wine Companion 2018**

“A grand expression of the mineral savoury texture, depth of old vine black plum skin and blackberry fruit and savoury allure that defines the fame of this magnificent old estate. Superfine tannin texture, a creamy bead and perfectly gauged dosage unite on an enduring finish accented by dark chocolate and coffee. A wonderful Great Western sparkling shiraz today, with the stamina to age confidently.”

Rating: 95 points

### **James Halliday Wine Companion 2019**

Fresh blueberry, blackberry and boysenberry, and a hint of chocolate mint as well. Quite plush, the flavours a combination of savoury, spice and generous but restrained fruit – the fine bead a feature. Excellent example of the style. Crown Seal.

Rating: 94 points      To: 2025