



*Thomson Family
Shiraz*

*Over a
Century
of Fine
Australian
Wines*

**1997 BEST'S CONCONGELLA VINEYARD
THOMSON FAMILY SHIRAZ**

Region: Grampians
Sub-region: The highly acclaimed "Great Western" which grew out of the State of Victoria's turbulent gold rush era.
Vineyard: Concongella, Great Western, established 1866
Grapes Planted: The late 1860's by Henry Best
Date Grapes Picked: 16th April
Maturation: A blend of American oak puncheons, French oak barriques.
Date Bottled: 9th September 1999
Alcohol: 14.5% VOL
Cellar Potential: Excellent. Under ideal cellaring conditions, up to twenty years to reach full potential.

Style: The Thomson Family shiraz epitomises all that is "Concongella" Great Western. Well balanced, the wine is rich and generous yet austere, dignified and aristocratic. With its incredible intensity, good tannins and warm velvety feel it makes a very exciting wine. Maturation will further develop these attractive complex qualities to an enriched, distinctive silky elegance.

The Vines: The wine is produced entirely from the fifteen rows of shiraz vines planted in the late 1860's, by Henry Best, on the Concongella vineyard at Great Western. Henry referred to them as "Hermitage" in his daily journal.

The Thomson Family: Fourth and fifth generation, Great Western district vignerons, since 1893, the Thomson family have been the custodians of Henry Best's rich heritage of vines since 1920, a heritage they carefully nurture and maintain with lots of loving care. The family create this wine only in select years - and consider it to be the flagship of their enterprise.

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