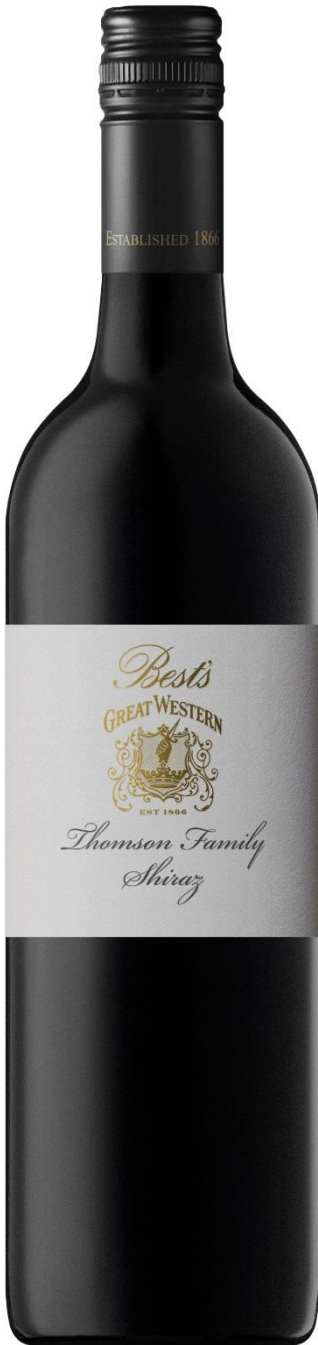




TASTING NOTE

2005 THOMSON FAMILY SHIRAZ



The Thomson Family Shiraz is produced from Henry Best's original 1868 Shiraz plantings, and only available in exceptional years, on average about six times a decade. The vines are cropped at less than two tonnes per acre (four tonnes per hectare) and are then meticulously hand-harvested, selected and sorted. Thomson Family Shiraz was first made in 1993, one hundred years after the Thomson family settled in the area. It is produced predominantly from the fifteen rows of vines planted by Henry Best, recorded as "Hermitage" by Henry in his daily journal. Today the clone is referred to by the CSIRO as the *Concongella clone* or the *Best's Old Block clone* and it is the mother clone of all subsequent shiraz plantings at Best's Great Western.

Technical Details

Growing Region	Great Western, Victoria
Grape Variety	Shiraz
Alcohol	14%

Tasting Notes

Colour	Beautiful deep purple hues.
Bouquet	Ripe and generous fruit on the nose, deep dark berries. Varietal shiraz grape aromas.
Palate	Rich and detailed, layers of complex, finely interwoven fruit and tannin supported ably by fine French oak. Long and powerful finish with soft crumbling tannins.
Cellaring	12 – 25 years
Vintage	A below average winter rainfall in 2004 meant that yields were restricted as the vines struggled to find water. Welcome summer rains arrived and brought about an even, low stress ripening period.

Winemakers recent note on the back.

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AWARDS & REVIEWS

Recent Tasting Note: Justin Purser 1st May, 2021

Very dark red, crimson mahogany hue
Dark broody red fruits, high toned nutty oak
Rich with crunchy acid. Remarkably fresh for a 16 year old wine.
8/10

REVIEWS

2009 James Halliday Wine Companion

The depth to this wine speaks volumes about the quality of fruit; powerful and full of dark fruits, there is an elegance and poise that draws this wine out to a very long and satisfying finish . **Rating: 95** points Drink now to 2020

The Real Review – Huon Hooke

Deep red purple. Excellent colour. Savoury, woody nose, some walnut and subtle spice. Palate fleshy and smooth, not big or especially powerful but with lovely texture and balance. Seamless. Some slightly prominent acidity. Vaguest hint of mint. Needs time: will evolve well.



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