



TASTING NOTE

2016 GREAT WESTERN SPARKLING SHIRAZ

Best's Great Western Sparkling Shiraz was re-introduced at Best's in 2006 after almost 20 years of absence. The sparkling Shiraz style is synonymous with Great Western and has been made in the region since the 1890s.

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 22 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

Region: Great Western, Victoria

Grape Variety: Shiraz

Alcohol: 14.5%

Winemaker: Justin Purser

TASTING NOTES

Colour: Inky dark purple with a crimson hue.

An exuberant mousse that fills the glass. The rocky head of deep purple foam subsides to reveal a lace of small and persistent bubbles.

Bouquet: Layers of aroma: roses, plum pudding, nutmeg, parmesan rind, blackberry and dark spices. Add in an undertone of meatiness and brioche from the lees contact in bottle and it demands to be tasted.

Palate: A broody and rich mouthful of fresh berries soaked in a spiced liqueur with a sprinkling of cocoa. The finish is seamless with a refreshing acidity and creamy effervescence to counterbalance the fruit.

Vintage: The vineyard set off to a rapid start with ideal conditions for budburst and a warm spring for fruit set. The summer was mainly warm and dry. There were a few hot spells, but adequate foliage ensured the vines remained in good health. The earlier than normal vintage period provided good ripening and harvest conditions with clear warm days that cooled off at night ensuring good natural acidity in the resultant wines.





Awards & reviews

REVIEWS

THE REAL REVIEW, HUON HOOKE – Jan 2020 Deep, bold, dark colour. The bouquet shows earthy, smoky, black fruits, smoky charcuterie and black olive or tapenade notes. The palate is very full-bodied and solid, dense, concentrated and robust, with lashings of supple tannins and a lovely dry-but-soft finish thanks to moderate sweetness and well-tailored tannins. A benchmark sparkling red. Drink now to 2034 **95 points**

TYSON STELZER – WBM, March/April 2020

Great Western is arguably the best place in the world for the sparkling shiraz (and the most historic) and this just might be its best value rendition. Bathed in black fruits, cassis and layers of black pepper and coal dust, it's impeccably crafted with super fine tannins, dosage and acidity uniting on a very long finish. Patience. **94 points**