
SCHWARZ

WINE CO.

2017 Schwarz Wine Co Schiller Shiraz

The Schiller Shiraz is a wine rich in both flavour and history. The grapes are hand-picked from the sixth generation Schiller Family vineyard at Hallett Valley in the Barossa. After a last-minute reprieve from the bulldozers, the 400 Shiraz vines planted by Carl August Otto Schiller in 1881 are something to be treasured.

I first made this wine in 2008, and since then it has been my flagship wine, As you cradle a glass of this Shiraz, cast a thought to the generations of pruners and pickers that have trod these rows over the last 137 years and raise a toast in their honour.

100% Shiraz

Alcohol: 14.5%

Production: 16 dozen bottled 29 January 2019 (2120 individually numbered bottles)

Yeast: Wild

Oak: 47% new French oak

Winemaking:

The fruit was picked on 23 March 2017 and fully destemmed to an open fermenter. Wild yeast carried out fermentation with soft pump overs and hand plunging daily. 12 days into ferment a new French Hogshead was filled, and fermentation finished in the barrel. The remainder of wine stayed on skins (the fermenter has a floating sealable lid) with gentle hand plunging carried out to maintain freshness in the cap for 40 days. Free run juice was then drained off and the skins were basket pressed, keeping the pressings separate and going into a new French Puncheon. The free run juice was put into used French barrels. The wine stayed in barrel until final evaluation and blending in October 2018. Bottled on 29 January 2019 with no fining or filtration.



Tasting note:

Opens quickly to luxe fruits, maraschino cherry, fruits of the forest and some black plum skin, building in its layers of salty licorice, dark chocolate and dried Mediterranean herbs. Needs time to spread its wings before glazed Christmas ham and sweet red earth show through the fruit. Though it has a similarly luxurious palate, this wine is testament to the balance that can be found from old vine Shiraz, with framing tannin and succulent acidity.

Tasting notes written by Christian Canala at Vinify Wine Co

Reviews:

Huon Hooke (The Real Review) – 92 points

Andrew Graham (Australian Wine Review) – 94 points