

Zitta

History in the tasting

SINGLE VINEYARD - ESTATE WINES
BAROSSA VALLEY



DE FAZIO
VINEYARD
Established 1864

NITSCHKE ROAD, GREENOCK
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5360

2014 BERNADO SHIRAZ

Bernardo is a single vineyard wine sourced from two blocks on the De Fazio Vineyard. The wine has been named after wine maker Angelo De Fazio's grandfather, whose traditional, sustainable land management practices are still used in the management of the De Fazio Vineyard today. Counting ladybirds and spiders on the vines was one of ways he used to check in with mother nature to see that things were in balance.

An intense, powerful and full-bodied, yet sophisticated wine, it exhibits dense, classic North Western Barossa Shiraz characters. Enjoy on release, or cellar to further soften the structure of the wine and reveal additional layers of complexity.

GROWING SEASON

2014 was an excellent year. The wines from 2014 are strong with deep and vibrant colour, excellent fruit definition and solid but integrated tannin structure ensuring longevity for the wines. The 2014 growing season began with slightly above average Winter rainfall however Spring and early Summer were very dry with 40% less rain than normal. Temperatures were also up with the Spring/Summer growing season being an average of 2 degrees C warmer. However, this dry and warm season changed dramatically in mid February with 100mm of rain falling, the wettest February day in 45 years. The rain slowed the ripening of the grapes considerably, but average mild temperatures followed in March (25.7 degrees C) which ensured good flavour and moderate sugar development producing outstanding quality.

VINEYARD

Bernardo Shiraz is sourced from two blocks on the De Fazio Vineyard. The main block has alluvial soils containing rounded pebbles mixed in red clay and limestone. This block is the remains of an ancient riverbed that runs through the middle of the property. The second block is situated in the north end of the vineyard and consists of red clay over slate and bluestone that provides a challenge for the vine roots to penetrate. Low yielding, the vines on this block produce small, tight bunches that have intense flavour and colour.

WINE MAKING

The 2014 Bernardo Shiraz was harvested between the 5th & 12th of March, and the grapes gently de-stemmed into small open-top fermenters. The grapes were fermented for eight to ten days on skins, were hand pump overs twice daily. The must was traditionally pressed and immediately filled to new and seasoned French and American oak hogsheads, where it completed fermentation and matured for 24 months prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

2014 Bernardo Shiraz is opaque purple-black in colour. Very aromatic and inviting, the bouquet displays a complexity of characters including ripe black plum, dark cherry, licorice, and blackcurrant. The rich, full-bodied palate shows immense concentration with plenty of depth. Dark sweet fruit dominate with toasty oak in support. The natural tannins are lightly grippy but very fine adding structure to support the powerful fruit. With layers of complexity this is a very pure but sophisticated wine of great equilibrium that is completed by a solid lingering finish. Bernard is complex Barossa Valley Shiraz that has a long cellaring future.

www.defaziowines.com