

# Zitta

*History in the tasting*

SINGLE VINEYARD - ESTATE WINES  
BAROSSA VALLEY



**DE FAZIO**  
VINEYARD  
*Established 1864*

NITSCHKE ROAD, GREENOCK  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5360

## 2016 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

2016 was hot and dry resulting in grapes ripening earlier than average. Winter and Spring rainfall was down by 38% whilst growing season temperatures were up by 3 degrees. Some welcome rain came at the end of January refreshing the vines and giving them good moisture to ripen to maturity. Yields from 2016 are solid and importantly quality is stunning. 2016 is certainly a star vintage with bright intense wines of great flavour intensity and inherent balance.

### 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 2016 Bernardo Shiraz was harvested between the 10th & 19th 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

2016 Bernardo Shiraz is inky purple-black in colour. The aroma is intense and immediately evokes a serious wine. There are lashings of black fruit, dark chocolate and cranberry complemented with dried herbs, violets and French oak. The palate is concentrated, full-bodied and oozes power but at the same time is beautifully balanced. Mouth-filling with generous flavours of rich dark fruits combined with integrated and subtle barrel ferment complexities. This is a well integrated Shiraz of stature and superbly proportioned. The natural tannins are fine and polished adding a muscular structure and definitive line. Bernardo is densely packed, very layered, harmonious and is completed with a dry lingering finish. This Shiraz can be enjoyed now but will cellar for a decade or more.

[www.defaziowines.com](http://www.defaziowines.com)