

Zitta

History in the tasting

SINGLE VINEYARD - ESTATE WINES
BAROSSA VALLEY



DE FAZIO
VINEYARD
Established 1864

NITSCHKE ROAD, GREENOCK
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5360

2018 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

2018 vintage was superb. Winter was slightly wetter than average getting the vines off to a brilliant start leading them into Spring which was warmer and drier than average. Rain in early December refreshed the vines and ensured they remained strong and healthy for the overall dry and hot Summer. Autumn also remained dry with perfect Autumnal temperatures leading into harvest. The 2018 yields are good and the quality is excellent, a classic Barossa vintage.

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 2018 Bernardo Shiraz was harvested between the 14th & 22nd 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

2018 Bernardo Greenock Shiraz is dark purple-black in colour. It has an expressive aroma displaying dark fruits, rose florals, milk chocolate, black olive, cinnamon spice and some toasty oak. The palate is rich and full-bodied, exhibiting classic Greenock Shiraz from a superb vintage. It has a perfect combination of black fruits together with rustic spice. Oak is finely integrated adding a supporting role to the primary fruit. Tannins are robust but being natural they are perfectly unified adding solid engaging structure. There is a lengthy finish to complete a very complex, well-balanced wine. Bernardo is an elegant complex, refined rich Barossa Shiraz that has a long cellaring future.

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