

OLD SALEM SHIRAZ

Variety: Shiraz

Vintage: 2022

Region: Barossa Valley, South Australia

Alcohol: 14.5%

The Old Salem Barossa Shiraz takes its name from the Old Salem Lutheran Church, which was built with humble claystone in 1856. The church was destroyed in the flood of 1946, but it lives on in the memorial stone laid in our vineyard and the grapes harvested from it. These are incorporated with carefully selected premium grapes from other longstanding Barossa family growers to create this distinctive Barossa Shiraz

Vineyard

100% sourced from the the low-yielding Old Salem Vineyard at Stockwell. Red and brown clay loam over red clay. The soil is red and brown loam over red clay which leads to concentrated, full bodied and robust wines, with good tannin structure due to consistent water availability and smaller canopies.

Winemaking

The wine was vinified in small-format stainless steel fermenters, spending seven days on skins to extract optimal flavor and structure. It was then matured for 12 to 15 months in a combination of new and seasoned premium French and American oak hogsheads. After aging, only the finest individual barrels from the most premium block of the Old Salem Vineyard were carefully selected for blending, ensuring exceptional quality and balance.

Colour

Deep inky red in colour.

Nose

Intense concentrated dark berry aromatics with spice notes.

Palate

The palate is full and dense with dark plum and blackberry as well as blueberry flavours. Maturation in French and American oak barrels gives the wine backbone, with spice and vanillin notes. Tannins are assertive and structural.

Cellaring

Drinks well now, or will benefit from cellaring for a further 10+ years.

Vintage 2022

The 2021 winter season was the wettest on record since 1996, but it was welcomed off the back of the previous 3 years where rainfall was minimal. On the 28th of October a severe hail storm decimated some of the central Barossa vineyards with varying levels of damage and crop loss. However the bunches that remained were relatively unscathed with a good set. A relatively significant rain event in February was a welcome relief to a warm dry Summer and assisted in freshening up the vines in the lead up to harvest. The 2022 wines can be described as elegant and structured, with good depth and length of flavour.

