



## VAT 9 Hunter Shiraz (2001)

<b>Wine</b>	Vat 9 Hunter Shiraz
<b>Region</b>	Hunter Valley
<b>Range</b>	Winemakers Selection
<b>Grape</b>	Shiraz
<b>Current Vintage</b>	2001



### Description

The Four Acres was planted in 1879 and the Eight Acres just prior to the turn of the century, and today they remain at 70% original vines. The soil is a heavy, rich volcanic clay with underlying limestone that provides good drainage. Excellent growing conditions from spring through to December. Extreme heat was then experienced from Christmas until the end of January. Rain fell every Tuesday night throughout February allowing for fruit flavour ripeness at lower sugar levels.

### Tasting Notes

A classic, traditional Hunter Valley wine style. The vibrant colour hints at the intensity of the wine while the palate shows front fruit sweetness with excellent tannins and fresh acidity giving length and fullness of flavour. Reflective of the winemaking philosophy, which concentrates on fruit character and structure, the oak component provides additional subtle complexity rather than dominating the wine.

### Information

Made from Shiraz grapes picked from the old vines on our Ashman's property, and the best blocks of the Brokenback vineyard. The wine was fermented in traditional hand plunged open vats and then matured in predominantly large (2250 litre) oak casks of which a large proportion was new wood. The newer casks have served to lift and freshen the fruit on the nose and palate rather than add any obvious characters of new wood. The balance of the wine, 20%, matured in 1 & 2 year old French oak barriques (225 litre capacity barrels).