



Vat 9 Hunter Shiraz (1998)

Wine	Vat 9 Hunter Shiraz
Region	Hunter Valley
Range	Winemakers Selection
Grape	Shiraz
Current Vintage	1998



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. The 1999 vintage gave Tyrrell's the best growing conditions of the 90's. Good levels of rain were received late winter and early spring with generally mild conditions all the way through until the end of vintage. There were a few extremely hot days in mid January that caused some leaf loss, this decade, but then some timely rain fall at the end of the month ensured excellent yields.

Tasting Notes

Both the nose and the palate show the earthy, spicy Shiraz characters, typical of Vat 9. Displaying classic bottle aged complexity, with a strong earthy nose and a rich, sweet complex palate with balanced tannin and acid. The palate is well structured with spicy fruit flavours and good length.

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).

History

First released in 1962, Vat 9 has been the flagship of Tyrrell's Shiraz production since that time. Handpicked off original vines on our Four and Eight Acre Blocks, this wine is renowned for its rich peppery characteristics and longevity.

Serving Suggestion

N/A

Vital Statistics

pH: 3.45 Acidity: 7.030 g/L Alc/Vol: 13.80%