

Kangarilla Road Tasting Notes

Kangarilla Road 2008 McLaren Vale Shiraz



The 2008 vintage was another challenging one with the continuance of Australia's worst drought in recent history. Our Shiraz vineyards benefited from cooler climatic conditions early in the season and a well set up canopy structure that allowed it to survive the late spell of heat that took everyone by surprise towards the end of summer.

The wine was fermented in traditional open fermenters with heading board systems and in static open fermenters using gentle cap management techniques. The pressed wine was aged in a combination of 25% new French and American oak complemented with an even mix of 1, 2, 3 and 4 year old oak.

Total Acidity g/L	6.6
Alcohol %	14.5
pH	3.52
Residual Sugar g/L	3.1
Bottling Date	April 2010
Winemaker	Kevin O'Brien

The major percentage of this wine is from our McLaren Flat vineyards. These vineyards located at the northern part of the foothills ripen later than other sub-regions resulting in "cooler climate" spicy aromatic dark berry driven wines with intense mid to back palate presence and an abundance of soft velvety tannins. These wines tend to develop best in French oak, however second and third use American oak also provide great depth.

The second component is sourced from both the Blewitt Springs and Seaview areas where soils range from mostly deep sands to red earth on limestone. The resultant wines display spicy bold dark plum characters.

The final component is from a vineyard in the Sellicks sub-region which is very close to the sea. Shiraz ripens early here also with very low yields; the wines have herbaceous characters with firm Cabernet like tannins.

Aromas of sweet spicy black fruits and perfumed plums with subtle glimpses of vanilla.

On the palate there is an explosion of black cherries with hints of spice including cinnamon and white pepper. This Shiraz finishes with a creamy velvety texture, the result of beautifully integrated fruit and oak tannins and enhanced with lingering notes of dark coffee and chocolate.

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