Bin 389 Cabernet Shiraz
2004

Created by the legendary Max Schubert - creator of PENFOLDS Grange - Bin 389 is often referred to as 'Poor Man's Grange' or 'Baby Grange', in part because components of the wine are matured in the same barrels that held the previous vintage of Grange.

First made in 1960, this was the wine that helped to build PENFOLDS solid reputation with red wine drinkers. Combining the structure of cabernet with the richness of shiraz, Bin 389 also exemplifies PENFOLDS skill in balancing fruit and oak. A classic Australian style with a clear PENFOLDS identity.

VINEYARD REGION
Langhorne Creek, Bordertown, Padthaway.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS
Above average winter rainfall led into a promising vintage, which was characterised by mild conditions up until February, followed by hot weather conditions throughout March and April. South Australia fared well and produced wines of elegance and intensity.

GRAPE VARIETY
Cabernet Sauvignon (53%), Shiraz (47%)

MATURATION
This wine was matured for 13 months in a combination of new, one year old and older American oak.

WINE ANALYSIS
Alc/Vol: 14.50%
Acidity: 6.50g/L
pH: 3.53

LAST TASTED
6.11.06

PEAK DRINKING
Now to 2014

FOOD MATCHES
Ideal with beef, duck and game.

Winemaker comments by Peter Gago - PENFOLDS Chief Winemaker

COLOUR
Dense and dark, and, at the time of tasting, still possessing a purple core.

NOSE
The nose hints at Grange character, necessitating a re-look at the label/bottle! The supportive oak sits beautifully, seamlessly integrated. Stewed plum flavours meshed with notes of cinnamon, nutmeg and whole black peppercorns (not ground). Would nuances of game terrine with pistachio shell be taking it a bit far? Surely not!

PALATE
The palate is tight and full-bodied, persistent, long and forceful. The wine has impressive texture, with pronounced, well-defined powdery tannins and oak totally absorbed in a wash of liquorice and berried fruits.

The 2004 Bin 389 is a true 'Baby Grange' release, as per the original style blue-print. Watch out 1996 and 1998, the 2004 approaches, accelerating in the overtaking lane!