

# RWT BIN 798

## Barossa Valley Shiraz 2016

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OVERVIEW	RWT Barossa Valley Shiraz presents an admirable alternative to the multi-regional sourcing and American oak maturation that are hallmarks of Grange, expressing instead, single region Barossa Valley shiraz matured only in French oak. The initials RWT stand for 'Red Winemaking Trial', the name given to the project internally when developmental work began in 1995. Naturally, now no longer a 'Trial', RWT Shiraz was launched in May 2000 with the 1997 vintage. Its style is opulent and fleshy, contrasting with Grange, which is more muscular and assertive. RWT is made from fruit primarily selected for its aromatic qualities and lush texture. The result is a wine that helps to redefine Barossa shiraz at the highest quality level.
GRAPE VARIETY	Shiraz
VINEYARD REGION	Barossa Valley
WINE ANALYSIS	Alc/Vol: 14.5%, Acidity: 6.8 g/L, pH: 3.72
MATURATION	12 months in French oak hogsheads (72% new)
VINTAGE CONDITIONS	The 2016 Barossa Valley harvest was outstanding, for both yield and quality. Autumn and winter were dry and cool with the Barossa Valley 100mm down on the long-term average winter rainfall. Record low rainfall and much warmer weather prevailed through September to December. The vines were given some relief in January and February when cooler conditions were recorded. The relatively mild 'Indian summer', characterised by an absence of extreme heat, ensured the fruit was able to ripen evenly, developing desirable flavours and firm tannins.
COLOUR	Deep magenta, purple on rim
NOSE	Alluring, invoking. Sweet, aromatic, spicy (cardamom, cinnamon, lavender) ... can aromas of butter chicken be mentioned in this context, in a tasting note?! Ascent of tangelo/blood orange spikes – propelling a chinotto/citrus lift. Dusty white chocolate, cocoa butter, and Italian temptations – panna cotta, zabaglione ... and what can only be an illusion of tiramisu! Oak – bound to be lurking there somewhere! Camouflaged? Decant more aggressively to reveal?
PALATE	Conceded. <i>It is:</i> glossy, flamboyant, ostentatious. <i>Is not:</i> over-ripe, alcoholic, extracted. Thereby hits the stylistic Barossa/shiraz bulls-eye ... with a little help from fastidiously selected French oak. This oak tightens/focuses/encapsulates. Simultaneously structurally tackled by embracing, ripe tannins. This fruit is then surely shrouded, submissive? Never. Archetypal blueberry bavarois and blackberry fruits brazenly strut across the palate. Dense, bountiful, and was there mention of lengthhhhhhhh ...?!
PEAK DRINKING	2020 – 2040
LAST TASTED	July 2018

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