



## RWT BAROSSA VALLEY SHIRAZ

2013

*“Opulence of Barossa (in a good year, 2013) coupled with the generosity of Shiraz (almost every year!) – an alluring and contemporary mix.”*

*“This vintage’s RWT expresses a matted, grainy texture, rather than sheen/gloss. Yet still sleek, defined.”*

**PETER GAGO**  
PENFOLDS CHIEF WINEMAKER

**OVERVIEW** Penfolds RWT 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 fine texture. The result is a wine that helps to redefine Barossa Shiraz at the highest quality level.

**GRAPE VARIETY** 100% Shiraz

**VINEYARD REGION** Barossa Valley

**WINE ANALYSIS** Alc/Vol: 14.5%, Acidity: 6.3 g/L, pH: 3.63

**MATURATION** 17 months in French oak hogsheads (57% new and 43% 1-y.o.)

**VINTAGE CONDITIONS** Winter rainfall in the Barossa Valley occurred as infrequent, light showers which resulted in low soil moisture and vines were in water deficit at the beginning of spring. Early budburst was noticeable and windy conditions during flowering were, in part, responsible for variable fruit set and lower than average yields come vintage. Frost risks had to be managed by our viticulture team and growers. Warm days were dispersed throughout October, November and in early January, contributing to an early start to the 2013 harvest and a relatively short, condensed vintage. Any January heat spikes were short lived and immediately followed by a mild reprieve. Dry and warm conditions, coupled with lower than average yields resulted in Shiraz showing strong, structural tannins, wines of great intensity and intense flavour.

**COLOUR** Bright deep red

**NOSE** More than just its fruity initial aromatic demeanour of boysenberry and mulberry... ..arising peat and Middle Eastern (Moroccan) spices laced with malt, mustard seed. Nutty, cedary oak coalesces with a splash of freshly glazed fig and just-baked brandy snap.

**PALATE** Textbook RWT. Cranberry, blueberry (Danish muffin) fruits overlay a stylish, integrated (rose-wood) French oak framework. Pronounced tannins caught up in a magma flow of Barossa fruits and unctuous extract – more of a mouth-coating eruption/propulsion! Balanced. Persistent. Complete.

**PEAK DRINKING** 2016 – 2036

**LAST TASTED** July 2015