



Bin 128 Shiraz

1997

Penfolds Bin 128 is a regional wine that reflects the unique climate and growing conditions of South Australia's Coonawarra district, where Max Schubert bought choice 'terra rossa' land and planted vineyards in the early 1960s. The first vintage of Bin 128 was made in 1962. Bin 128 has undergone a style change since the mid-1980s. From the 1980 vintage, French oak - rather than American - has been used with even better results. The wine has also benefited from a fruit-selection policy that has seen greater attention paid to the ripeness of grapes going into the blend.



VINEYARD REGION	Coonawarra
VINTAGE CONDITIONS	A cool summer - and delayed ripening - was followed by warm weather in late March and April. Winter rainfall had been excellent in the Coonawarra district and good rains continued into September and past bud-burst.
GRAPE VARIETY	Shiraz (Syrah)
MATURATION	12 months in a combination of new (22 percent) and used French oak.
WINE ANALYSIS	Alc/Vol: 13.50% Acidity: 6.30g/L pH: 3.51
LAST TASTED	2000-07-27
PEAK DRINKING	Now - 2008
FOOD MATCHES	Duck & Game, Lamb

Winemaker comments by Phillip John

COLOUR Deep vibrant red.

NOSE A combination of spices - including black pepper - and youthful, fleshy raspberry and blackberry fruit. There are Rhone-like savoury and roasted meat aromas coupled with floral/anise characters and a background of subtle cedary French oak.

PALATE Dark stone fruits - Satsuma, plum, prune and hints of liquorice. Excellent, defined, cool-climate structure balanced by refined French oak. A generous mid-palate richness enlivened by crisp, natural acid. The menthol lift on the finish is framed by fine,