

Barossa Babe Tasting Notes



2006 Barossa Valley Shiraz

Grapes

100% Shiraz

District of origin of grapes

100% Barossa Valley, South Australia

Vinification

Warm fermentation in static fermenters on skins for 10 – 14 days at 22°C. Gentle pressing off skins using airbag press. Malolactic fermentation and maturation in oak as below. Bottled and matured under premium cork for two years prior to release.

Oak Maturation

Barrel matured for 24 months in –
65% - New French oak,
35% - 2 yr old French oak

Analysis

Alcohol 15.9%
pH 3.43
Acid 6.76g/L
Sugar Dry

Colour

Cherry Black with vivid purple hue.

Nose

A comfortably familiar and warming nose of brooding syrupy dark fruit, earth, leather, mocha and spice.

Palate

An invitingly full, voluptuous palate bulging with rich satsuma and blood plums, a mass of black cherry adds a further layer of fleshy depth all fusing with quintessential Barossa floor earthiness, chocolate, and spice. Powerful yet paradoxically soft these concentrated primary characters extend through to a delightful finish of fine lingering tannins and a warming touch of pepper.

Food Match

Extremely well suited to a rare roasted rib of beef, closely followed by an aged Heidi gruyere cheese.

Winemakers comments

The winter break to the 2006 growing season came very late, and we received virtually zero autumn rain. Just as things started to look desperate, the heavens opened in mid June, where we received over 8 inches of rain in 14 days. This went a good way to recharging the sub-soil moisture levels, and enabled the planting of cover-crops to commence. The wet winter and spring continued, and we even had the rarity of major flooding in Adelaide in October, something which has not happened for over two decades. Warm, mild spring conditions were generally ideal for flowering and fruit set. Rainfall continued during the four month growing season, which significantly reduced the need to irrigate. The Barossa Babe utilises the best fruit I can source from Barossa Valley, two years in French oak and a further two years maturing in bottle prior to release. I am very excited to release this 2006 version to you, as this refined Babe is an absolute stunner, an out and out glamour.....
.....in fact I think I love her! *Tim Burvill - Winemaker*