



Estate Shiraz 2012

Sunshine Creek Vineyard is located in the Yarra Valley, a region with more than 170 years of wine growing history in Australia. The vineyard has a total of 22 hectares and an average vine age of 35 years. At Sunshine Creek, the unique soil and microclimate provide the perfect environment for growing premium quality grapes. Good vineyard management ensures grape yields are limited and the quality of the grapes selected is guaranteed. Our Chief Winemaker, Mario Marson, uses advanced winemaking techniques in the winemaking process.

Region	Heathcote
Block	7 Bernie and Sue
Alc	14.5%
Clones	Mount Ida and PJ23
Soil	Cambrian, clay loam
Winemaker	Mario Marson
Viticulturist	Jan Rathjen

Growing Season

Another wet start to the season, which certainly kept everyone on their toes with the possibility of a repeat season to 2011 looming. Once flowering was completed, the rain backed away leaving a mild, dry lead in to harvest. Its often the period from the start of January that can make or break a season, from a quality perspective, with the potential for heatwaves (2009) and floods (2011) ever present. 2012 was ideal, giving sublime Chardonnay, richly coloured Pinot Noir and complex, beautifully structured Cabernet Sauvignon.

Winemaking

This fruit was grown in the renowned Heathcote region of Victoria by viticulturalist Jan Rathjen. The fruit was destemmed and crushed with a small addition of SO₂. It was chilled for two days and then selected yeasts were added. Fermentation techniques of pump over, hand plunging and rack and return were employed. After pressing, the wine was transferred to selected French oak barriques of which 30% were new. The wine was aged for 15 months and then blended, lightly filtered and bottled.

Tasting note

This Shiraz was made from selected grapes from the renowned Heathcote region in central Victoria. It is matured in French oak casks for 15 months. This wine has a deep hue and displays a bouquet of intense black fruits, licorice, dark chocolate and pepper spice. This rich Shiraz, with its intense mouthfeel, has black fruit flavours complexed by tar and licorice and persistent fine oak tannins.

