



PLATINUM LABEL

BAROSSA SHIRAZ
2003

THE ICON SHIRAZ OF THE PORTFOLIO, PLATINUM LABEL IS A BLEND OF THE FINEST PARCELS OF FRUIT FROM SELECTED BAROSSA VINEYARDS, CRAFTED TO EPITOMISE THE BEST OF VARIETY, VINEYARD AND VINTAGE.

Made in extremely limited quantities from low yielding vines, Wolf Blass Platinum Label is, quite literally, the pick of the crop, a wine crafted to epitomise the best of vintage, variety and vineyard.

Prior to the 1998 debut vintage, the Wolf Blass winemakers identified a number of vineyards as worthy of the 'Platinum Vineyard' status. The key characters demonstrated by these vineyards are intensity of colour, concentration of fruit flavour, an elegant, balanced structure and long, fine tannins.

The individual vineyard parcels were crushed, de-stemmed and fermented separately in small batch open fermenters. During fermentation, a combination of plunging and pumping-over was used to maximise extraction of colour and tannin while retaining concentration and depth of fruit. Some parcels were pressed off skins after 7 days to develop a full, rich, middle palate while others remained on skins for up to 14 days to enhance the tannin structure and length of flavour.



WINE SPECIFICATIONS

VINEYARD REGION	<i>Barossa</i>
VINTAGE CONDITIONS	<i>The 2003 vintage was warm and dry to begin, becoming milder later in the season. These conditions prompted an early vintage with the fruit reaching optimum ripeness evenly across the region. The vintage produced Shiraz with dense colour, excellent varietal character and soft tannins.</i>
GRAPE VARIETY	<i>Shiraz</i>
MATURATION	<i>This wine was matured for 20 months in 100% French oak barrels - 70% new, with the remainder in one year old barrels.</i>
WINE ANALYSIS	<i>Alc/Vol: 15.5%</i> <i>Acidity: 7.20g/L</i> <i>pH: 3.57</i>
PEAK DRINKING	<i>Displaying intense fruit in its youth, this wine will soften and mellow with careful cellaring for decades to come.</i>

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

COLOUR	<i>Dark and dense - deep purple in colour.</i>
NOSE	<i>The lifted, fragrant nose shows spicy, ripe berry and dark chocolate characters.</i>
PALATE	<i>The palate is elegant, rich and concentrated, with complex layers of blackberry, freshly ground coffee and spice supported by integrated, smoky oak, a seamless, balanced structure and long, fine tannins.</i>