



PLATINUM LABEL

BAROSSA SHIRAZ
2004

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, Wolf Blass winemakers identified vineyards 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.

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. After pressing, the wines were transferred into new French oak for 20 months maturation prior to blending and bottling.



WINE SPECIFICATIONS

VINEYARD REGION	<i>Barossa Valley, Eden Valley.</i>
VINTAGE CONDITIONS	<i>The 2004 vintage enjoyed solid winter rainfall and favourable conditions during spring and summer, delivering a vintage of outstanding quality. A heatwave in February caused some concern for early ripening varieties, but Shiraz maturing after the heat remained in good condition, showing excellent colour, flavour and acid balance. 2004 was one of the longest vintages in recent times; the dry, warm and stable conditions resulted in both yield and quality performing to an exceptional standard.</i>
GRAPE VARIETY	<i>Shiraz</i>
MATURATION	<i>This wine was matured in new French oak for 20 months.</i>
WINE ANALYSIS	<i>Alc/Vol: 14.5%</i> <i>Acidity: 7.13g/L</i> <i>pH: 3.50</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>Brooding - deep, dark red.</i>
NOSE	<i>A well integrated nose offering balanced French oak - attractive - without dominating the wine's impressive plum and berry aromas. Underlying layers of mocha / chocolate notes are subtle, adding interest and complexity.</i>
PALATE	<i>The Barossa Valley fruit offers richness and concentration to the palate, while the Eden Valley component contributes elegance and fragrance. A wonderful combination of blackberries with spice and integrated oak. This is a seamless, textured wine; rich and intense with excellent palate length and fine long tannins.</i>