

PENFOLDS BIN 28  
KALIMNA SHIRAZ



**“In the scheme of things Bin 28 may seem well below Grange, but when you consider the overall portfolio, the wine is quite high in the hierarchy.” – JAMES HALLIDAY**

The image shows a close-up of a wine label for Penfolds Bin 28 Kalimna Shiraz. The word "Penfolds" is written in a large, elegant, red cursive font at the top. Below it, "BIN 28" is printed in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, "KALIMNA SHIRAZ" is printed in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The background of the label is a light, textured color.

**OVERVIEW:** Penfolds Bin 28 was originally a single vineyard Shiraz selection from the Kalimna Vineyard in the Barossa Valley. Introduced as one of the first Bin wines within the Penfolds portfolio, it has become an Australian classic. The wine can be found in the swishest restaurant in London and in a dusty outback pub in the Northern Territory. Indeed this wine style has universal appeal because of its intense fruit definition, ripe fleshy palate structure and generosity of flavour. The wine has a reputation (among single bottle buyers) for being an early drinking wine style, yet it is also highly valued by collectors for its aging potential on the secondary wine market. Indeed it has won “Red Wine of the Year” twice, in 1991 and 1995 at the International Wine Challenge, held each year in London.

During the late 1970s Bin 28 Shiraz became a multi-district blend. It made perfect sense to look further afield for high quality fruit as it was always a house style first, rather than a single vineyard wine expression. By European standards, the Kalimna Vineyard is large. Within its boundaries it has several vineyard blocks, each with its own particular nuances of place. With so much good quality Shiraz grown in the Barossa and elsewhere, Penfolds was able to increase the volume of production and improve the overall quality and maintain the generous warm climate style. James Halliday notes, “In the scheme of things Bin 28 may seem well below Grange, but when you consider the overall portfolio, the wine is quite high in the hierarchy. The grower will get a premium for his fruit if it’s up to Bin 28 standard”.

Joseph Ward remarks that recent vintages are “extremely fresh and exuberant with plenty of sweet fruit characters and plush tannins. I got a sense that this may have something to do with the quality of the vineyards”. Certainly, Penfolds has improved its vineyard management and grower liaison practices. Steve Lienert says, “Our winemakers spend a lot of time assessing vineyards these days. They talk to the growers about the kind of fruit quality they need. The combination of better grower/winemaker teamwork, batch harvesting and improvements in viticulture and winemaking has paid us handsome dividends in quality”.

The fruit is sourced from the Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale (including independent growers), Clare Valley, Langhorne Creek and even as far as Padthaway. Penfolds adheres to a very strict level

**PENFOLDS**

**BIN 28**

**KALIMNA SHIRAZ**

*First Vintage: 1962*

*Variety: Shiraz*

*Origin: Multi-district blend from South Australia. Significant contributions from Barossa Valley, McLaren Vale, Clare Valley and Langhorne Creek.*

*Fermentation: Stainless steel tanks with wooden header boards.*

*Maturation: 15 months in one and two-year-old American oak hogsheads.*

*Comments: Originally a single vineyard wine, moving to a multi-regional blend in the late 1970s.*





## PENFOLDS BIN 28

### KALIMNA SHIRAZ

Introduced as one of the first Bin wines within the Penfolds portfolio, it has become an Australian classic.

of fruit selection and the overall winemaking philosophy remains the same. It is foremost a showcase for warm climate Shiraz. During the 1980s the quality of pressing improved with the introduction of a membrane press. This has translated to better tannin structures, further improved by advances in tannin management during the 1990s. The wine is matured in one and two-year-old American and French oak barrels. Bin 28 has very clear ripe fruit definition when young, with plenty of concentration and fruit sweetness. Bin 28 contrasts with the more defined, cooler climate style of Bin 128. The wine has a reputation for improving with medium term cellaring and in exceptional vintages these wines are suitable for long term cellaring.





## PENFOLDS BIN 28

### KALIMNA SHIRAZ

1962 **Past - Now**

Brick red. Earthy/leather/meaty/vellum aromas. A fully developed wine with leafy tannins and some fruit sweetness. Beginning to dry out on the palate.

1963 **Now - Past**

Brick red. Meaty/earthy/apricot aromas. A rich sweet palate with meaty/prune/apricot flavours and fine tannins. Beginning to fade.

1964 **Now** ★

Brick red. A lovely mature red wine with meaty/mocha/earthy/bitumen aromas. Well-concentrated wine with sweet mocha/coffee/polished leather flavours, rich chocolaty tannins and a long finish. Drink now.

1967 **Now** ★

Brick red. Meaty/gamy/honeycomb aromas with some primary black plum nuances. Rich and satisfying wine with plenty of mocha/plum fruits and soft ripe tannins.

1970 **Now**

Brick red. Developed prune/meaty/earthy/leather aromas. The palate is rich and deep with ripe prune/chocolate/earthy fruit and ample tannins.

1971 **Now** ★

Brick red. Fully mature wine at the cusp of development with cedar/chocolate/mocha/cigar box aromas and flavours. The palate is deeply concentrated and fleshy with ripe/lacy/savoury tannins. Finishes firm. Excellent wine.

1975 **Now**

Brick red. Smoky/toffee/prune/chocolate aromas. A flavoursome wine with plenty of choco-berry/prune characters and fine bitter tannins. Grippy finish. Drink now.

1976 **Past**

Brick red. Tired, dusty, dried out wine with a sweet and sour, rather herbaceous palate. Neither bottle lived up to vintage expectations.

1977 **Now** 2008

Brick red. Intense prune/choco-mint/meaty aromas and some floral notes. Elegantly proportioned wine with complex bitter dark chocolate/prune flavours, and fine tannins. A major surprise.

1978 **Now**

Brick red. Mature briary/meaty/smoked oyster aromas. A lighter style wine with briary/meaty/earthy/walnuty flavours and dry grippy tannins.

1979 **Now**

Brick red. Chocolate/earthy/seaweed/barnyard aromas and flavours. The palate has some fruit power and sweetness but the tannins are bitter and aggressive.

1980 **Now**

Brick red. Cedar/dark plum aromas with herb garden/mint nuances. Some rich sweet plum fruit/aniseed/mint flavours and persistent tannins. Much better than at 1999 ROP tasting.

1981 **Now**

Deep brick red. Prune/meaty, slightly barnyardy nose. A fully mature palate with ripe prune/mocha fruit and dusty/grippy tannins. Finishes firm and tight.

1982 **Past - Now**

Brick red. Bitumen/cherry/herbal aromas and flavours. The palate is soft and gentle with some fruit sweetness. An unfocused wine past its best.

1983 **Now** 2008

Deep red. A massive wine with earthy/meaty/prune/licuorice aromas. Immensely concentrated palate with thick/soupy tannins and some cedar/roasted meat/earthy fruit flavours.

1984 **Now - Past**

Medium red. Red cherry/herb garden aromas with some jammy/licuorice notes. A lighter bodied wine with some tangy cherry/mint/herb flavours and fine tannins. Not a wine for keeping.

Outstanding vintages ★



**1985** **Now**  
Deep red. Prune/black cherry/chocolate aromas/flavours and some leathery notes. The palate is quite austere with pronounced tannins and fading fruit.

**1986** **Now** **2010** ★  
Deep red. Complex classically mature wine with cedar/spice/choco-berry aromas. The palate is rich and flavoursome with plum/dark chocolate flavours and velvety/supple tannins.

**1987** **Now** **2008**  
Medium brick red. Developed colour with savoury leafy/mulch/earthy/cedar aromas. The palate is elegant with supple berry fruit and leafy tannins. A product of a cool vintage.

**1988** **Now** **2008**  
Deep red. Prune/choco-berry/licuorice aromas with some walnut characters. Medium concentrated palate with dark chocolate/plum flavours and dry/leafy/grippy tannins.

**1989** **Now**  
Medium red. Stewed fruit/jammy/herb garden aromas and flavours. Palate is quite herbal/vegetal with some confected jammy fruit. Tannins are leafy and green.

**1990** **Now** **2020** ★  
Deep red. A classic Penfolds vintage. Intense dark choco-berry/mocha/licuorice aromas. A rich and full flavoured wine with abundant ripe fruit and supple cedary tannins. Superb wine.

**1991** **Now** **2020** ★  
Deep red. Fresh Shiraz aromas of cherries/raspberries and scented plums. The palate is soft, ripe and concentrated with plum/prune/blackberry pastille flavours and fine grainy tannins. A really well-balanced wine.

**1992** **Now** **2010**  
Deep red-purple. Dark plum/black cherry aromas with some leafy/herb/mint characters. A plush well-concentrated palate with sweetly rich fruit and fine but firm tannins.

**1993** **Now** **2008**  
Deep red. Plum/blackberry/earthy aromas and flavours with some stewed fruit/herbal characters. The palate is dense but savoury with leafy tannin structure. Drink soon.

**1994** **Now** **2015** ★  
Deep red-purple. Intense potent wine with sweet plum/blackberry/mint aromas. The palate is opulently rich with deep-set plum/blackberry/flavours and ripe dense tannins.

**1995** **Now**  
Medium deep red. Berry/cedar/mint chocolate aromas. Loose-knit lighter style with red berry/cedar fruit and well-balanced fruit tannins.

**1996** **Now** **2020** ★  
Medium deep red. Smoky red plum/meaty/chocolate aromas. A dense, concentrated wine with ripe smoky/plum/choco-berry flavours and smooth satin tannins.

**1997** **Now** **2008**  
Deep red. Intense plum/red currant/leafy minty aromas and flavours. loose-knit savoury palate with redcurrant/sweet fruit, fine savoury tannins and long finish.

**1998** **Now** **2025** ★  
Deep red-purple. Intense ripe blackberry/plum/licuorice aromas with a touch of oak maturation character. The palate is immensely concentrated with opulent black fruit/choco-berry flavours and densely ripe tannins. A powerhouse.

Outstanding vintages ★



## PENFOLDS BIN 28

### KALIMNA SHIRAZ

1999 **Now** 2015

Deep red-purple. Fragrant spice/berry/leafy aromas. More leanly structured than the 1998 with dark berry/licuorice flavours and strong firm tannins. A muscular wine.

2000 **Now** 2015

Deep red-purple. Floral violet/raspberry/vanilla aromas. A well-concentrated wine with plenty of sweet mulch/raspberry/plum fruit and fine loose-knit tannins.

2001 **Now** 2025 ★

Deep red-purple. Intense plum/berry/licuorice aromas. A very full bodied solid/dense wine with very ripe crushed plum/berry fruit and powerful chocolaty tannins. Very youthful exuberant wine.

Outstanding vintages ★