

Penfolds

MAGILL ESTATE

SHIRAZ 1998

Magill Estate Shiraz is Penfolds' only single-vineyard wine. It is of great symbolic importance because it is the only wine grown and made on the remaining 5 hectares of the original Penfolds property at Magill, in Adelaide's eastern suburbs.

First made in 1983, Penfolds Magill Estate Shiraz is an elegant, medium-weight style with velvety texture and fine tannins, matured in both French and American oak. It is a sleek, contemporary wine, but crafted in the old-fashioned way in a 120-year-old winery: hand-picked, basket-pressed and made in open fermenters.

Along with 1996, 1990 and 1986, 1998 is among the best vintages of the past two decades.

Penfolds Magill Estate Shiraz has been packaged in laser-etched bottles since the 1997 vintage.



VINEYARD REGION	Magill Estate Vineyard, Adelaide
VINTAGE CONDITIONS	An outstanding vintage that began late due to cool spring weather, although conditions were generally frost and disease-free. Warm summer weather led to an early vintage, with excellent fruit quality.
GRAPE VARIETY	Shiraz (Syrah)
MATURATION	16 months in new French (58%) and new American (42%) oak.
WINE ANALYSIS	Alc/Vol: 13.50% Acidity: 7.20g/L pH: 3.53
LAST TASTED	15-Dec-04
PEAK DRINKING	Now - 2015
FOOD MATCHES	Ideally suited to Lamb

Winemaker comments by John Duval

COLOUR

Dense, impenetrable red.

NOSE

Aromas of tobacco and spice (cinnamon), with underlying dark licorice and black pepper. With time, barrel ferment mocha and 'wet charcoal' characters emerge.

PALATE

This complex array of aromas carries seamlessly on to the palate, which is chewy and richly textured and has fine, powdery tannins. Despite - or perhaps because of - its origins in a single vineyard, the wine is already 'complete' and integrated. A fine, distinctive expression of this vineyard.