

Penfolds

RWT

BAROSSA VALLEY SHIRAZ 1998

Penfolds RWT Shiraz is an understudy to Grange, expressing Barossa Valley Shiraz in combination with French oak. The initials RWT stand for 'Red Winemaking Trial', the name given to the wine internally when developmental work began on it in 1995.

RWT Shiraz was launched in May 2000 with the 1997 vintage. Its style is opulent and rich, contrasting with Grange, which is more muscular. RWT is made from fruit selected for its aromatic qualities and fine texture rather than sheer intensity or power of flavour. The result is a wine that helps to define Barossa Shiraz at the highest quality level. Packaged in laser-etched bottles.



VINEYARD REGION	Barossa Valley
VINTAGE CONDITIONS	An outstanding Barossa Valley 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. Joins 1996, 1990 and 1986 as one of the best vintages of the past two decades.
GRAPE VARIETY	Shiraz (Syrah)
MATURATION	15 months in new French oak.
WINE ANALYSIS	Alc/Vol: 14.50% Acidity: 7.20g/L pH: 3.49
LAST TASTED	15-Dec-04
PEAK DRINKING	2005 - 2020
FOOD MATCHES	Ideally suited to Beef, Cheese, Duck & Game

Winemaker comments by John Duval

COLOUR

Deep crimson red.

NOSE

Rich, saturated, Christmas pudding-like fruit and stylish French oak are immediately obvious, followed by more subtle aromas of dried glace fruits and underlying dark liquorice and prune.

PALATE

A sleek, luscious Barossa Valley Shiraz in which a core of blueberry fruit and ripe tannins contribute to phenomenal length of flavour. There is also a refined, luxurious, praline-like flavour and texture. Still very youthful, with oak more integrated on the palate than the nose, indicating a great cellaring future. A modern Penfolds classic that is at once both sophisticated and hedonistic.