

PIRATHON

by KALLESKE

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BAROSSA VALLEY
Vintage 2011

SHIRAZ



2011 PIRATHON by Kalleske SHIRAZ

Pirathon is an ancient word for pinnacle and we believe Shiraz is the pinnacle grape of the Barossa and that the north-western Barossa is the pinnacle sub-appellation for Shiraz. Pirathon Shiraz is a full bodied wine encompassing the great flavour, texture and structure of the north-western Barossa. Higher altitude, gullies, hills, slopes, and undulations provide different topographies, microclimates and individualistic parcels of grapes with unique flavours and characters from their own site. We work with dedicated high quality growers in the north-western Barossa, many of whom have been growing grapes here for generations. Pirathon Shiraz showcases and celebrates the pinnacle north-western Barossa region and pinnacle Barossa grape with a complex and distinguished wine. **Troy Kalleske, Winemaker**

GROWING SEASON

Vintage 2011 was the wettest growing season the Barossa has experienced for decades, with double the normal rainfall. It was also much cooler too, resulting in a longer ripening process and vintage being about 3 weeks later than normal. However, once vintage began in mid March, April was dry and warm with fantastic ripening conditions to give a perfect finish to the vintage. The cool weather has resulted in great natural acidity and fresh vibrant flavours in the grapes, with wines more elegant than usual and displaying plenty of florals and spice.

VINEYARD

The grapes were harvested from the low-yielding vineyards of traditional family growers in the north-western Barossa districts of Greenock, Moppa, Belvedere, Stonewell, Seppeltsfield, Koonunga and Ebenezer. Each vineyard adds its own exclusive dimension to Pirathon Shiraz and combined they produce the ultimate blend.

WINEMAKING

The wine was entirely vintaged at the Kalleske winery at Greenock by Tony & Troy Kalleske. Following harvest, each individual lot of grapes was crushed into a separate open top fermenter. During fermentation, hand pump-overs gently extracted colour and flavour from the grapes. The fermented grapes were pressed with a traditional press. The wines were then filled to new and seasoned American, French, Russian and Hungarian oak hogsheads for maturation for eighteen months before each lot of wine was raked from the barrel and carefully blended. The wine was bottled without fining or filtration, ensuring the true expression of the vineyards in the bottle.

TASTING NOTES

Pirathon Shiraz 2011 is deep purple-black in colour. The bouquet indicates a serious wine with enticing aromas of dark plum, cherry, chocolate, wild berry, perfume and spice. The wine is full-bodied and mouth-filling with dark red and black fruits, a chewy texture, integrated powdery tannins and a layered structure. The length is very generous and completes a flavoursome well-balanced wine with fruit, oak and tannins in harmony. Pirathon is a paramount expression of north-western Barossa Shiraz that will reward time in the cellar for 5-10 years.

