



PIRATHON
by KALLESKE

BAROSSA VALLEY

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PIRATHON *by Kalleske* SHIRAZ 2006



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:

The 2006 growing season was interesting and diverse and can't be summed up as either cool, hot, wet or dry as it was all of these in one! Spring and early Summer were extremely wet and windy and this was then followed in mid January by the biggest heat wave since the 1940s. Fortunately this heat was early enough in the season to not be detrimental. After this heat, cooler conditions prevailed to the end of Summer. Another warm and dry period in early Autumn helped the grapes ripen and mature good flavours. Cool, wet conditions prevailed late in the season resulting in vibrant fresh fruit flavours being retained and predominating in the grapes. In summary, it was a very good season in the Barossa.

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 basket press. The wines were then filled to new and seasoned American, French, Russian and Hungarian oak hogsheads for maturation. After two years in the barrel cellar, each lot of wine was raked from the barrel before careful blending. The wine was bottled without fining or filtration, ensuring the true expression of the vineyards in the bottle.

Tasting Notes:

Pirathon Shiraz 2006 is dark red-black in colour. The perfumed bouquet is lifted with rich aromas of fruit cake, roses, blackcurrant, chocolate, nutmeg spice and wild berry. The serious and complex palate is mouthfilling with generous dark fruit and balanced oak barrel characters. This full-bodied wine is multi-dimensional with a solid structure and fine integrated tannins. A very persistent finish completes a powerful and well-balanced wine. Pirathon is a paramount expression of north-western Barossa Shiraz that will reward time in the cellar.