



SHOTTESBROOKE

Single Vineyard 'Scarce Earth' Shiraz 2012

Blewitt Springs, McLaren Vale



BACKGROUND

First planted by founder, Nick Holmes, over 30 years ago, Shottesbrooke takes its name from an estate in Berkshire, England, where Nick's grandfather was vicar of the parish from 1905 to 1926. Today, Shottesbrooke is proudly an estate grown and managed boutique winery.

From the defined borders of our oldest and finest vineyard blocks, the Single Vineyard Series showcases the translation from terroir into wines of unique style and flavour, whilst remaining true to the hallmark Shottesbrooke style of elegance and finesse.

Vineyards

The 2012 growing season in the McLaren Vale region was characterised by low yielding crops of high quality. Good winter rainfall led to minimal water requirements in the vineyards throughout the warmer months. Mild weather and low disease pressure early on saw an ideal start to the ripening period, however a burst of heat in February, coupled with no rain, brought ripening on rather quickly and harvest began slightly earlier than usual. As a result of this unique weather combination, the wines produced from the 2012 vintage were powerfully concentrated, showing exceptional colour profiles, depth and character, and are considered to be among some of the best in recent memory.

Blewitt Springs is a growing area located towards the north eastern boundaries of the McLaren Vale region. The furthest from the sea, it is also home to the highest vineyards in the district. The vineyard chosen for our single vineyard shiraz shows great character and individuality. Grown on a north facing slope overlooking Bakers Gully, the soil profile is deep sand over clay, interspersed with quartz and ironstone, and it consistently produces elegant, interesting and distinctive Shiraz each season.

Winemaking

The fruit for this wine was harvested on the 14th of March during the cool of the morning and delivered to the winery for destemming and crushing. The must then spent ten days on skins before being gently pressed to aged French oak, where it completed malolactic fermentation. The wine was then racked and returned to the same barrels for 16 months maturation.

Tasting Notes

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| Colour | Bright crimson |
| Nose | An enticing bouquet of rose petals and boysenberry, with a subtle hint of white pepper and clove. |
| Palate | An elegant and supple wine displaying tremendous personality, the medium bodied palate displays ripe, juicy red fruit complemented by lashings of dark chocolate and delicate spice. Framed by fine, chalky tannins, the wine shows graceful length and persistence. |
| Cellaring | Now until 2020 |
| Food Match | Pepper-crusted venison or Szechuan beef dishes |

Alcohol : 14.5%

pH : 3.52

Titrateable Acidity : 6.3 g/l

Reviews, Awards & Accolades

"Vivid crimson-purple; the expressive bouquet tells of the concentrated blackberry fruit of the medium to full-bodied palate, with layered foresty black fruits, bitter chocolate and quality oak; has prodigious length and aftertaste." - **97 Points**, James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion - April 2014

"Deep, dark purple. Smells of bread dough, wet cement, black tea, dried mint, blackcurrant. Flavors offer opulent tastes of blackberry, cassis, prune juice. Long, tannic, chewy aftertaste. Excellent, highly recommended." - **90 Points**, Ultimate Beverage Challenge, USA - June 2014

"Black pepper and black olive - a fragrant and quite pretty wine. Delicate and lots of spice." - **92 points**, Oz Wine Review, Andrew Graham - July 2014

