



ALBERT SHIRAZ 2011

THIS WINE IS THE NAMESAKE OF MY GRANDFATHER ALBERT - A MAN THAT I GREATLY RESPECT FOR HIS TIRELESS HARD WORK AND COMMITMENT.

That the '11 Vintage was not without its challenges is perhaps an understatement. The cool, wet growing season was much more reminiscent of Europe than typical Barossa. So while it was not without trepidation, we 'ploughed' into the Shiraz vintage with as much bravado as we could muster. In the aftermath, the vintage has continually surprised us, the 2011 reds emerging far better than we even dared hope, with the 2011 Albert a case in point.

Albert is usually composed of just two small old blocks of Shiraz; one from the warm, dry North-West end of the Barossa, a 70-odd year old block in the parish of Ebenezer, and the other a cooler 50 year old block from the South-Eastern hills of the Valley near Williamstown. For 2011, the roles of these two blocks were nearly reversed. The Williamstown block dodged the rains before vintage, and formed Albert's strong, dark core. Ebenezer, by contrast, was 'wet as a shag' over summer and this block (unusually) contributed elegance, fragrance and spice rather than the muscle. A third, notable parcel was also included from the Western heart of the Barossa. Our prized parcel of Marananga shiraz, the "Righteous" block, has also found its way here. As fabulous as this parcel was, we made the difficult decision to declassify it from its icon status, offering some beautiful pedigree to this terrific 2011 Teusner Albert Shiraz.

Variety: Shiraz 100%.

Bouquet: The 2011 Teusner Albert has a vivid purple-red rim and a dark brooding core. Aromas of fragrant mulberry, sweet dark plums, milk chocolate and butterscotch pudding mingle with fennel-aniseed, hints of dried rosemary and ground spice .

Palate: The vibrant savoury palate is layered with dark fruits and red liquorice, gentle fine-grained tannins, a mineral backbone and a clean finish.

Analysis: pH 3.5, T.A. 6.1 g/L, RS Dry, Alcohol 14.5%, Free/Total SO2 30/82 mg/L at bottling.

