



2010 Nepenthe Shiraz

Unique in character, classically Nepenthe.



VARIETY

Cool climate Shiraz has been rapidly growing in reputation and popularity in the past few years. At Nepenthe we saw the potential for Shiraz in the Adelaide Hills when vines were planted at our Hahndorf vineyard in 1999. It's an ideal site for Shiraz with high altitude, low vigour soils and northerly aspect. Our aim with this wine is to produce an elegant style with pure, berry fruit, spice and medium weight with great balance, structure and approachability.

VINTAGE

Vintage 2010 will be remembered favourably for producing conditions ideal for grape ripening and harvest. Budburst was early again in 2009, as early as August in some vineyards. Rainfall tracked above average for winter and spring for the first time in years which led to excellent canopy growth. The ripening period was then very dry, with mild temperatures and importantly cool nights. These ideal conditions allowed us to harvest the fruit at optimal ripeness with little disease pressure. It also allowed for the development of powerful varietal flavours across all varieties.

Murray Leake - Viticulturist

WINEMAKING

All our Shiraz grapes are hand picked then rapidly transported to the winery where they are de-stemmed without crushing. The 'must' is gently mixed and yeast added within 12 hours of crushing. Wooden boards are placed on top of the skins; the boards keep the cap under the fermenting juice throughout the ferment, giving a very soft and slow extraction. Total time on skins is approx 10 days. After pressing the wine is racked to oak barrels. Oak is primarily French with 30% new barrels; however we also use a small number of American oak hogsheads. Following Malolactic fermentation then wine is left to mature in barrel for 16 months. Intensive barrel tasting precedes final selection for inclusion in the Altitude Shiraz.

Alex Trescowthick - Winemaker

THE WINE

Region: Adelaide Hills

Variety: Shiraz

Colour: Bright crimson with a hint of purple

Bouquet: Lifted and bright with ripe fruit reminiscent of raspberry, blackberry and plum supported by notes of violet, spice and vanilla

Palate: A traditional cool climate style with a mid weight, elegant palate showing dark berry fruits, sweet vanilla oak and a long, structured finish

Alcohol: 12.5%