

SHIRAZ

Shiraz takes on many guises, and you'll find several of them here. Take note of the wines in the \$20-30 range. That's where you'll find the value from this tasting.

2015 Clonakilla O'Raida Shiraz Seductively aromatic dark cherry, blackberry and spice. The palate has a fineness and length that is very special indeed. Upgraded from our previous review. The 2015 Clonakilla Shiraz Viognier, likewise has blossomed after being comparatively closed shortly after bottling. (Not yet released) ★★★★★
<http://www.clonakilla.com.au/>

2015 Ravensworth Estate Shiraz Viognier This is a very bright young wine, redolent of dark cherries and rose petals. There's a touch of herbal whole bunch complexity, and the long palate features fine tannins. Up a notch since our previous tasting. (\$39.00) ★★★★★
<http://www.rathdownecellars.com.au/products/online-store/>

2013 d'Arenberg The Dead Arm McLaren Vale Shiraz A very concentrated nose of dark fruits and dried herbs presages an engaging savoury palate, with a well-judged touch of oak and lingering tannins. Ideal for cellaring. Well done. (\$65.00) ★★★★★
<http://shop.darenberg.com.au/>

2014 Wirra Wirra RSW McLaren Vale Shiraz This is a real attention-grabber which is very refined and polished. There's a fragrant touch to the black and red berry aromas, and the new oak input is all class. The fineness of tannins and length of palate are very impressive. (\$70.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.wirrawirra.com/shop/>

2014 Chandon Yarra Valley Shiraz The funky dark cherry and black pepper aromas are captivating, and the palate is fine, long and silky. A deliciously drinkable red that will age well. (\$32.00) ★★★★★
<http://www.chandon.com.au/wines/>

2014 Di Giorgio Family Coonawarra Shiraz This wine really conveys what it is to be Coonawarra shiraz. It's all about the fruit and its origin – unobscured red berry, mint and spice with a fine tannin structure. I'm sure many would under-rate this wine, but we don't. (About to be released - \$26.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.digiorgio.com.au/>

2015 Clonakilla Hilltops Shiraz A perfumed, rather than spicy, shiraz showing attractive red berry characteristics. Very attractive medium-bodied drinking. (\$28.00) ★★★★★

2014 Chapel Hill House Block McLaren Vale Shiraz A rich, ripe shiraz with an appealing earthiness and grilled meat character that is almost certainly derived from the House Block site. Flavour floods the palate and is backed up by abundant sandy tannins. (\$65.00) ★★★★★

2013 Tim Adams Clare Valley Shiraz The classic varietal blackberry shows out together with a faint hint of coconut. A generous, supple, very drinkable shiraz. (\$25.00) ★★★★★

2014 Right Reverend Benevolentia Mount Barker Syrah Very fresh and decidedly spicy, with plenty of dark berry flavour in a medium-bodied style. (\$24.00) ★★★★★

2013 Mount Avoca Old Vine Pyrenees Shiraz A very rich, almost dense, shiraz showing blackberry and rose petal. A take no prisoners wine that will delight lovers of the full-on style. (\$45.00) ★★★★★

2014 Bremerton Selkirk Langhorne Creek Shiraz A blackberry-scented wine with a touch of reduction that breathed off. The palate is fruity and lively, backed up by tannins that allow for current drinking. (\$22.00) ★★★★★

2014 Chapel Hill Road Block McLaren Vale Shiraz A sibling of the House Block wine (above), the Road Block is a substantial red. It too displays secondary characteristics including a touch of volatility which is a complexing agent rather than a fault. There's plenty to this wine but it's on the rustic side. (\$65.00) ★★★★★

2013 Mr Riggs McLaren Vale Shiraz It shows obvious ripeness and oak, but retains freshness of dark berry fruit. It's not subtle, but there's no shortage of flavour. (\$50.00) ★★★★★

2015 Shingleback Aficionado McLaren Vale Shiraz Very fresh, very supple, very McLaren Vale in an approachable style. (\$15.00 – Vintage Cellars exclusivity) ★★★★★

2013 Mount Avoca Malakoff Shiraz The aromas are of blackberry and eucalypt. Savoury tannins frame a palate that is just a little hollow, allowing the acid to show out on the finish. (\$45.95) ★★★★★

2013 Tobacco Road Shiraz From Gapsted Victorian Alps winery, this is definitely a drink-now style, but it has adequate fruit and spicy appeal, offering some value for money. (\$16.00) ★★★

2014 Yalumba Organic Shiraz A fresh, simple mulberry style that is a little short on the palate, but is ok for everyday drinking. (\$15.00) ★★★

There's certainly something for everyone.

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