

## ZONTE'S FOOTSTEP SHIRAZ

**I**t's not often that we have the opportunity of comparing shiraz from different regions – all created by the same maker. The wines were made in similar fashion, so it allowed us to ponder the differences brought about by geography. Here's the lowdown on Zonte's Footstep Shiraz from the Adelaide Hills, Barossa Valley, Langhorne Creek and McLaren Vale.

The first wines for the Zonte's Footstep label were made in 2003, and for the past decade the produce of ZF, with distinctive and innovative labelling, have been on our radar. It was well and truly time for a close look.



**2017 Zonte's Footstep Hills Are Alive Adelaide Hills Shiraz** The bright colour sends a strong message about the freshness of this vibrant shiraz. Aromatically, the leaning is more to red berries than black, and spicy nuances add considerably to the appeal. The palate is “juicy” and seamless, with fine, savoury tannins. Although very enjoyable now, it's likely to age well for a decade. (\$35.00) ★★★★★

December 24, 2018

**2017 Zonte's Footstep Chocolate Factory McLaren Vale Shiraz** The nose is full of life, and packed with scents of mixed berries – from blackberry to strawberry. Needless to say, it doesn't take much imagination to detect hints of chocolate. The palate is long, with firm but balanced tannin support. Needs time. Best value of the line-up. (\$27.50)  
★★★★☆

**2017 Zonte's Footstep Baron Von Nemesis Barossa Shiraz** This wine has the least depth of colour of the five which, for a Barossa shiraz, is a surprise – as is the red fruits (hints of strawberry) nose. Although fresh, the palate is medium-bodied, soft and quite simple. (\$35.00)  
★★★★☆

**2016 Zonte's Footstep The Lake Doctor Langhorne Creek Shiraz** Rich, ripe dark berries with hints of chocolate and mint feature on an engaging nose. This is a plush, very drinkable wine with plenty of varietal generosity. (\$27.50) ★★★★★

**2016 Zonte's Footstep Z-Force McLaren Vale Shiraz** Here's a wine of considerable substance. It shows blackberry, freshly-tilled earth and chocolate overtones, with a hint of oak. The powerful palate offers wall to wall flavour backed up by firm, balanced tannins. Cellar. (\$56.00)  
★★★

Fans of fresh, honest, richly flavoured red wines (and aren't we all?) will find pleasure and value in these wines. The Chocolate Factory and Hills Are Alive offer particularly good value.



**Star of the holiday season so far**

**2009 Dom Perignon** Probably the most famous of all champagnes, Dom Perignon went through an ordinary period before bouncing back in 2008. This one delivers everything we expect of DP – subtle complexity, elegance, length, and a mousse of amazing fineness. (\$219.00) ★★★★★☆

<https://www.winestar.com.au/dom-perignon-2009>

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