

SVA Shiraz

Shiraz, as a varietal group, is by far the largest in the Small Vigneron Awards. It's split into nine classes for judging purposes. As usual some familiar names continue to demonstrate their consistency by scoring gold medal points. It's also very heartening to see some new faces like Bruno & George, Cat Out of the Bag and Jack Rabbit performing so well.



2023 Sanguine Estate Progeny Heathcote Shiraz A delightfully perfumed shiraz offering hints of violets on the nose which suggest the presence of viognier. This is an impressive, long-flavoured wine balanced by expertly managed firm tannins. Given its outstanding record in Winewise tastings over the years, this simply has to be one of the best value reds in Australia. (\$27.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.sanguinewines.com.au/wine/2023-progeny-shiraz>

2022 Bruno & George Old Vine Barossa Valley Shiraz Here's a new name for the Small Vigneron Awards. The bright, youthful colour caught the eyes of all judges as did the vibrant nose which shows intense red and blue fruits. The beautifully balanced palate lingers long, with a hint of spice. (\$65.00) ★★★★★

Note: If ordering this wine through the website, please confirm that the vintage is 2022.

<https://www.brunogeorgewines.com.au>

2023 Sanguine Estate Kindred Heathcote Shiraz Peppery and spicy, with some reductive complexity. The intense palate is balanced by firm, fine tannins. This wine delivers a lot for the price. (\$20.00)

★★★★☆

<https://www.sanguinewines.com.au/wine/2023-kindred-shiraz>

2023 Hamelin Bay Wines Reserve Margaret River Shiraz A lively, medium-bodied dark berry style in which high-quality oak plays a role but is kept in check by intense fruit. Needs a few years to show its best.

(\$60.00) ★★★★★

<https://hbwines.com.au/product/2023-reserve-shiraz>

2021 Thomas Wines Kiss Hunter Valley Shiraz This is a vibrant young shiraz that's in the red berry spectrum of aromas and flavours. The medium-bodied palate carries the new oak comfortably, and the tannins are beautifully polished. A stylish, well crafted wine. (\$90.00)

★★★★☆

<https://www.thomaswines.com.au/product/2021-Kiss-Shiraz>

2022 Cat Out Of The Bag Bellarine Shiraz This is a lively, complex shiraz with spicy undergrowth notes and a positive hint of reduction. The red fruits flavour and fine ripe tannins typify its cool origins.

(\$32.30) ★★★★★

<https://leuraparkestate.com.au/products/cat-out-of-the-bag-shiraz-2021>

2023 Windance Estate Margaret River Shiraz An impressive young shiraz showing red berry characteristics and an appealing hint of lavender. The palate is long and very well balanced. (Not yet available)

★★★★★

2022 Ross Hill Pinnacle Orange Shiraz Very bright colour and nose. This is a red and blue fruits style with a hint of graphite complexity. The long palate is satisfying and firmly structured. (\$50.00)

★★★★★

<https://www.rosshillwines.com.au/product/pinnacle-series-shiraz/>

2023 Hamelin Bay Wines Margaret River Shiraz Vivid purple colour. The extroverted nose combines satsuma plum with lashings of “sweet” oak. Although fairly firm, the palate is fresh and concentrated.

Give it time. (Not yet available) ★★★★★

2023 Smallwater Estate Geographe Shiraz Very much a fruit-driven wine showing red berry aromatics and flavour that are full of life. Gentle tannins add to the attraction. (Not yet available) ★★★★★

2022 Jack Rabbit Vineyard Bellarine Shiraz An attractively spicy shiraz with some reductive complexity. The palate is generously flavoured in a cool climate way, balanced by supple tannins. (\$46.75)

★★★★★

<https://www.jackrabbitvineyard.com.au/collections/frontpage/products/jack-rabbit-shiraz>

2022 Purple Hands Barossa Valley Shiraz A vibrant, delicious, plush shiraz that shows its regionality proudly. (\$40.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.purplehandswines.com.au/product/barossa-valley-shiraz/>

2022 Kimbarra Grampians Shiraz Strong purple/red colour. Notes of sarsparilla in the red fruits nose, together with herbal hints. Good length and structure. (Not yet available) ★★★★★

<https://kimbarrawines.com.au/>

2023 Thomas Wines Elenay Hunter Valley Shiraz Another impressive wine under this “accidental” label. It’s a classic medium-bodied, red fruits regional style with a distinct lick of oak. The long palate is balanced by persistent, fine tannins. (Not yet available)

★★★★★

2022 Haddow + Dineen Crows Descended Tasmania Shiraz The fresh red berry aroma and flavour, together with a pleasing spiciness, is typical of this wine’s cool origins. A faint greenness held it back slightly in our view, but there’s still plenty of excitement here. (\$60.00)

★★★★★

<https://www.haddowanddineen.com.au/shop/haddow-amp-dineen-crows-descended-shiraz>

- 2022 Bellevue Estate McLaren Vale Shiraz** Deep purple. Mouthfilling and balanced, Good old school style. (\$24.00) ★★★★★
<https://bellevueestate.bigcartel.com/product/2022-bellevue-estate-basket-pressed-shiraz-six-pack>
- 2021 Gibson Reserve Barossa Shiraz** A big, rich, typical Barossa red that's fresh and satisfying. The powerful varietal fruit carries the oak and skin tannins comfortably. (\$55.00) ★★★★★
<https://gibsonwines.com.au/products/2021-gibson-reserve-shiraz>
- 2021 Sons of Eden Remus Eden Valley Old Vine Shiraz** This is a bright, substantial shiraz in all respects, offering dark berry characteristics supported by complex undergrowth and dark chocolate notes. The polished tannins match the fruit. Cellar. (\$80.00) ★★★★★
<https://sonsofeden.com/wine/2021-remus-eden-valley-old-vine-shiraz/>
- 2018 Idavue Estate Heathcote Shiraz** A dark, concentrated wine of substance delivering rich fruit and firm, ripe tannins. (\$30.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.idavueestate.com.au/>
- 2023 Briar Ridge The Gatherer Single Vineyard Shiraz** Very fresh blueberry-like fruit is supported by attractive hints of earth and graphite. Oak makes its presence felt, but is in check. (\$55.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.briarridge.com.au/Wines/Shop/Type/Red>
- 2022 Paperboy Wine Co Headliner McLaren Vale Shiraz** In terms of flavour for dollar, this wine really delivers. It's a big, ripe shiraz in the traditional regional style. (\$25.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.facebook.com/paperboywineco/>
- 2022 Whistler Wines Shiver Barossa Shiraz** The nose tends to red berries and blackcurrants with herbal notes. Although tightly structured at this stage, the palate has more than adequate fruit weight. (\$40.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.whistlerwines.com.au/product/2022-shiver-shiraz>
- 2022 Tim Smith Wines Barossa Shiraz** There's certainly no lack of flavour here. A touch of regional chocolate fits in well. A big, solid red. (\$45.00) ★★★★★
<https://timsmithwines.com.au/wines/barossa-shiraz/>
- 2022 Sons of Eden Romulus Old Vine Barossa Shiraz** A rich, quite dense shiraz that needs time to settle down. However, it's balanced and has all the components for cellaring. (Not yet available) ★★★★★

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