

MMAD

VINEYARD

BLEWITT SPRINGS

2022 SHIRAZ

SHANTEH WALE
THE WINE PILOT

MARCH 2024

Approximately one third whole bunches for this amiable vintage. Blackberry, Bing cherries and earthy Swiss Chard stem. Caper and olive leaf, black sesame and wattleseed. Allspice and pepperberry. Gritty sandstone tannins that funnel down the middle palate. Amaro bitters and coffee beans on the finish. Acidity is taut and terrific. Like the snap of a speedo elastic. It's full of vigor and life and is drinking well now and will cellar 3-6 years down the track. Serve beside grilled lamb chops and herb butter.

95 POINTS

CAMPBELL MATTINSON
THE WINE FRONT

FEBRUARY 2024

If you're lucky, and most of us aren't, there comes a time in your life when it all comes together. I suspect that's what's happened with this Blewitt Springs vineyard, planted in the middle of the Second World War, and the collection of wine people behind MMAD, all of whom have weathered a lot of summers in a lot of places in the pursuit of wine excellence. This wine tastes of a lot of right decisions, and of a lot of time spent in the journey to them. It has texture, balance, flavour and all that, but as my mum would say, 'any dumb bunny can do that'. More importantly, what this wine has is all the nods and winks. I once wrote, a long time ago, of a moment where union legend David Campese ran straight through a bunch of defenders without breaking stride, or altering course. He did something, something that couldn't be seen, and made the impossible look effortless. So too here. It has degrees of silk, fruit enough, a spinnaker on the finish, a volume of nuance. If there was such a thing for single vineyard, vintage, Aussie shiraz, this wine would be classified as first growth.

97 POINTS

HUON HOOKE
THE REAL REVIEW

Very complex Rhône-ish meaty/spicy bouquet of formidable charm and detail. There's a nicely judged touch of reduction in there, and the wine is fleshy and sumptuous on the palate, smooth textured and glossy, with a lingering aftertaste packed with supple, polished tannins that are in effortless support. An outstanding shiraz. The tannins are formidable and sneaky—they will ensure a long aging career. A stonking McLaren Vale regional shiraz.

97 POINTS

MARCUS ELLIS
HALLIDAY WINE COMPANION

This is a seriously impressive release, showcasing winemaker Adam Wadewitz's learnings from the first vintage and the bounty of full viticultural control. The old-vine fruit could easily handle about one-third whole bunch, a Wadewitz favourite. And that impact is profoundly positive, weaving in spicy, smoky notes and complexing tannins to provide exceptional tension without greenness. Red and blue fruits, violet and dusky red florals, coal dust, anise, cacao and roasted coffee bean. Intensity on the palate at moderate alcohol and no heavy mid-palate sweetness nor new oak. Rather, it is poised throughout, with fruit intensity seamlessly meshed into a silky, supple but aptly assertive structure, a ferrous nori/kelp mineral note underpinning. For a site purchased prizing grenache, this is a revelation.

97 POINTS