

# Shaw and Smith

This Shaw + Smith Shiraz reveals the fresh, vibrant character of its terroir, a medium-bodied wine where finesse is paramount and each sip reflects the careful craftsmanship of its producers.

## Shiraz 2021

SHAW + SMITH

Adelaide Hills, Australia

### Region and Vineyards

The **Adelaide Hills** region in South Australia is celebrated for its cool-climate viticulture, providing ideal growing conditions for varietals that thrive in a more temperate environment, including Shiraz. Located at elevations ranging from **382 to 423 meters** above sea level, Shaw + Smith's vineyards at **Balhannah and Lenswood** benefit from an extended growing season due to lower temperatures, allowing the grapes to develop intense aromatics and natural acidity. These vineyards are strategically positioned with northern exposure to maximize sunlight, which aids in the even ripening of the grapes.

The soils in these vineyards are a complex mix of **sandy-loam over red clay, quartzite, and shale**, enhancing the wine's minerality and lending structure to the Shiraz. This distinctive soil profile, combined with the cooling effects of higher elevation, supports the balanced development of fruit concentration and acidity, resulting in a Shiraz that reflects the region's terroir with remarkable precision. Shaw + Smith's commitment to sustainable practices and meticulous vineyard management further enhances the quality of the fruit used in this wine.

### Winemaking

Crafted with a philosophy of **minimal intervention**, Shaw + Smith Shiraz 2021 is produced to express the purity of fruit and regional characteristics. The grapes are carefully **hand-harvested** and sorted, with fermentation taking place in **open-top stainless steel tanks**. This method allows for gentle handling of the fruit, preserving the grape's natural flavors and aromatics. The fermentation temperature reaches up to **32°C**, and a combination of **whole berries and whole bunches** are used, along with gentle punchdowns, to achieve balanced extraction of color and tannins without overpowering the wine's delicacy.

Aging occurs in **French oak barriques and larger barrels** (228 to 500 L), with one-third being new oak, for a total of **14 months**. This oak regimen contributes a subtle layer of spice and texture without overshadowing the wine's fresh fruit character. The wine is then bottled and undergoes an additional **8 months of bottle aging** to harmonize the flavors and enhance the wine's overall structure. Shaw + Smith's careful approach to winemaking ensures that this Shiraz maintains its elegant profile while highlighting the unique aspects of Adelaide Hills' terroir.



Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 99% Syrah, 1% Viognier



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## Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with a hint of purple at the rim.
- **Aroma:** Rich aromas of black cherry, plum, and blackberry, complemented by subtle notes of licorice, black pepper, and a touch of graphite.
- **Palate:** Medium-bodied and refined, with flavors of dark fruits like blackcurrant and mulberry. Fine-grained tannins and vibrant acidity lend structure, with a long, mineral-driven finish that highlights the wine's cool-climate origins.

## Did you know?

Shaw + Smith began producing Shiraz in the **early 2000s**, pioneering a cool-climate style for this varietal in the Adelaide Hills, which was traditionally known for lighter wines. The focus on **elegance over intensity** has positioned this Shiraz as a unique expression of the varietal in Australia, gaining recognition as a standout example of cool-climate Shiraz.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Slow-cooked lamb shoulder:** The wine's structure and acidity complement the tender richness of lamb, enhancing its flavors without overpowering them.
- **Duck breast with a cherry reduction:** The dark fruit and subtle spice in the Shiraz mirror the cherry sauce, creating a layered and sophisticated pairing.
- **Aged cheddar or Manchego cheese:** The wine's acidity and tannins cut through the cheese's richness, while the fruit notes provide a balanced contrast.
- **Porcini mushroom risotto:** Earthy flavors from the risotto echo the wine's minerality and depth, harmonizing beautifully with each sip.

### Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2021)

The 2021 Shiraz is ever the silky, svelte wine, never more than in this elegant, restrained vintage. It has cool, mineral detail overlaid by bright blue fruits and exotic spice. The tannins are very fine and serve to shape the fruit rather than intrude. It is perfumed, supple and seamless. It has by far the best concentration and complexity of all the vintages tasted here today (2015-2021). It has notes of raspberry, mulberry, licorice, beetroot, cranberry and redcurrant as well as white pepper, clove and star anise. Lovely wine here! It has sweet oak and is perfumed and shapely. Good! 13.5% alcohol, sealed under screw cap.

### Decanter (DCT) : 98 Points (2019)

Beware the siren with the ruby-red lips. In a smoky room, here she strides – confident, cool, arresting. Slender, stalky cherry and a smear of blackcurrant bite, spiked with crushed peppercorns. No sunny smiles here, this is deadly serious. Leaner, finer and taut, it marks a big stride ahead from previous vintages. This vision of cool-climate Shiraz marks a new age of measured sophistication.



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### **James Suckling (JS) : 95 Points (2019)**

*A super-ripe dark-plum and blackberry nose with pepper and spice aromas, together with some smoky and graphite-like elements. Plenty of complexity. So fleshy and deep with a smooth tannin texture and dark plums and blackberries sitting fresh into the finish. Rich, sweet red-fruit tones to close. Drink over the next eight years.*



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