Jasper Hill

Jasper Hill Georgia's Paddock Shiraz is a remarkable wine from Heathcote, Victoria, showcasing a deep crimson hue and a complex array of flavors.

Georgia's Paddock Shiraz 2022

Victoria, Australia

Region and Vineyards

Heathcote, located in central Victoria, is distinguished by its ancient Cambrian soils, which are over 500 million years old. These soils contribute to the rich, concentrated flavors of the region's wines. Jasper Hill, established in 1975 by Ron and Elva Laughton, is a pioneering estate in Heathcote, known for its commitment to biodynamic viticulture and minimal intervention winemaking.

The estate comprises three vineyards: **Georgia's Paddock, Emily's Paddock, and a smaller vineyard**, all situated on these unique soils. Georgia's Paddock, in particular, yields fruit with a distinctive personality, contributing to the wine's depth and complexity.

The vineyards are dry-farmed, which enhances the concentration of the fruit flavors and promotes the expression of the terroir.

Winemaking

The winemaking process at Jasper Hill is characterized by minimal intervention to preserve the natural expression of the fruit. The grapes undergo natural fermentation without the addition of commercial yeast or nutrients, allowing the native yeasts to ferment the wine and contribute to its unique character. Malolactic fermentation occurs spontaneously, further enhancing the wine's complexity and mouthfeel.

The wine is matured for **12 months** in 20% new French oak barriques, a careful use of oak that adds subtle complexity without overpowering the fruit. The wines are not fined before bottling, ensuring they retain their full natural flavors and textures. Bottling is done on-site, preserving the wine's integrity and reducing the risk of oxidation or contamination.

Alcohol :15,50 %

Composition: 100% Syrah

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Bright crimson to the edge.
- **Aroma**: Immediate, powerful nose of red and black berry fruits.
- **Palate**: Mixed spice highlights, complemented by ripe, sweet dark cherry and plum flavors, with a cola/chinotto finish. The wine has a fabulous tannin/acid balance, conferring longevity but is imminently approachable now, particularly with a rare steak.

Did you know?

Ron Laughton, the winemaker, adopts an old-fashioned "less is more" approach. Common acid adjustments are not necessary in the Laughton winery, and the wines are a pure expression of their terroir, reflecting the unique characteristics of the land on which they were grown.

Wine Pairing Ideas

Jasper Hill Georgia's Paddock Shiraz pairs beautifully with robust and flavorful dishes. Its rich and complex profile complements the savory and juicy qualities of a perfectly grilled rare steak.

The wine's depth also makes it an excellent match for barbecued lamb chops, where the smoky and charred flavors highlight the wine's spicy and fruity notes.

For cheese lovers, aged cheddar provides a delightful contrast with the wine's vibrant acidity and bold fruit character, creating a harmonious balance on the palate.

Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2022)

The 2022 Georgia's Paddock Shiraz leads with blackberry jam and salted licorice, pastrami, tobacco, alpine mint, arnica, coffee grounds and forest berries. It is inky and black, and yet the tannins have a drying effect through the finish. There is an aspect of the luxurious nature of this wine that is very appealing, and this will attract many. However, my concern is that when fruit is picked late enough to achieve the flavors that they do here, it can come at the expense of freshness and suppleness of tannin. While I believe this wine is still very much in balance, it is pushing the line of ripeness, for my palate. Yet it's a style, and it's done very well here—and better than many, I might add, who shoot for this same impact. 15.5% alcohol, sealed under natural cork.

Wine Spectator (WS) : 96 Points (2019)

A stunning mix of concentrated blueberry preserves, salted black licorice, blackberry and huckleberry flavors, with details of black walnut liqueur, malty Assam black tea, smoked paprika and bittersweet chocolate. The tannins are dense and toothsome, but there's polish and refinement present as well, followed by an epic finish.

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James Halliday (JH) : 95 Points (2019)

The first rule with Georgia's is to decant. Splash some air into what is a bigger-than-usual year for the well -known Heathcote shiraz. The '19 needs to stretch. You want those trademark pretty florals to step out from behind the wall of black fruits, rich plums, earth and sweet oak spice. Still as captivating as ever and can only improve.