

Ministry of Clouds

Produced from old vines planted in 1960, this Shiraz highlights a deep blue-fruit profile, laced with aromatic complexity and framed by fine tannins.

MINISTRY OF CLOUDS



Blewitt Springs Single Vineyard Shiraz 2020

McLaren Vale, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The **Blewitt Springs** subregion in **McLaren Vale** is celebrated for its ancient soils and unique terroir, producing Shiraz with remarkable concentration and elegance. This vineyard, established in **1960** and rooted in **Maslin Sand over Ironstone**, provides a well-draining, mineral-rich foundation that amplifies the fruit's intensity and depth. The vines are oriented eastward, capturing the cool morning sun and avoiding the heat of the afternoon, which contributes to a balanced acidity in the grapes.

Located in an elevated area, the Blewitt Springs site benefits from cooler temperatures than other parts of McLaren Vale, creating conditions ideal for producing Shiraz with finesse and a vibrant freshness. The vineyard's **dry-grown, old vines** yield small berries packed with flavor, and meticulous vineyard management ensures that each harvest reflects the best qualities of this terroir.

Winemaking

The **Blewitt Springs Shiraz** is crafted with **100% Shiraz**. The grapes are **hand-harvested**, and **15% whole bunches** are retained to add structure and complexity to the final wine. The remaining grapes are gently destemmed and cold-soaked for two days before a traditional open-vat fermentation begins. Hand plunging occurs daily to optimize color and flavor extraction, and after fermentation, the wine is **gently basket-pressed** into a mix of one- and two-year-old **French oak puncheons** for a **12-month maturation**.

This approach emphasizes balance and integration, with the oak providing a subtle spiciness without overwhelming the fruit. The result is a Shiraz with an elegant structure, showcasing the vineyard's aromatic and textural attributes, with a core of intense blue and red fruit flavors and a mineral complexity that lingers on the palate.

Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Syrah

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby with blue-purple highlights.
- **Aroma**: Fragrant and complex, featuring bright notes of cherry, raspberry, and cranberry, complemented by nutmeg, violets, and hints of spicy French oak.
- **Palate**: A core of dense, blue fruit flavors with a finely textured tannic structure and a natural acidity that provides tension and length, creating a balanced, layered finish.

Did You Know?

The Blewitt Springs vineyard owes much of its development to Italian immigrant families who planted these blocks after World War II, transforming McLaren Vale's landscape and setting the foundation for today's acclaimed Shiraz vineyards. This vintage honors their legacy by capturing the unique character of this historic site.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Standing beef rib roast with duck-fat potatoes**: Enhances the wine's robust tannins and rich fruit.
- **Lamb shanks with rosemary and garlic**: The herbal notes align well with the Shiraz's complexity and structure.
- **Wild mushroom risotto**: Complements the earthy and spicy layers in the wine.
- **Aged hard cheeses like Pecorino or Gruyère**: The tannins and fruit intensity balance the cheese's nuttiness.

97

Robert Parker (RP) : 97 Points (2019)

The 2019 Single Vineyard Blewitt Springs Shiraz is from the Patritti family property. As with the Onkaparinga Rocks Shiraz, the fruit spent 30 days on the skins, with minimal bunches in the ferment and matured in second and third fill French puncheons, with a long élevage. There is almost unbelievable concentration here; this is brooding and midnight, with licorice, dark chocolate, exotic spice, clove bud, tobacco leaf and black tea and peat, too. There are a few curls of dehydrated orange zest for good measure. Very, very good.