



# Charles Melton

Charles Melton Grains of Paradise Shiraz is a rich and elegant expression of Barossa Valley's Shiraz, delivering layers of dark fruit, savory notes, and plush tannins.

CHARLES  
MELTON



## Grains of Paradise Shiraz 2018

Barossa Valley, Australia

### Region and Vineyards

The **Barossa Valley**, located in **South Australia**, is synonymous with world-class Shiraz. This wine is sourced from Charles Melton's estate vineyards, specifically the **Rowland Flat vineyard**, planted in **1927**, and the **Kirche vineyard** in Krondorf. These vines are dry-grown, relying solely on natural rainfall, which concentrates the flavors and creates intensely flavored fruit.

The **Rowland Flat vineyard** is planted on **clay loam soils**, which contribute richness and structure to the wine, while the **Kirche vineyard** features a mix of sandy loam, red clay, and **black cracking clay**. The latter adds layers of minerality and complexity to the Shiraz. The vineyard's proximity to the historic Zum Krippelin Christi Lutheran Church, built in 1864, lends its name—**Kirche**, meaning "church" in German.

### Winemaking

To highlight the **classic Barossa Shiraz style**, the winemaking process emphasizes gentle handling and minimal intervention. The grapes are fermented with **gentle cap management**, extracting full color and flavor without over-extraction. The wine is then aged for **28 months** in oak, primarily **American barriques**, with **15% new oak** to integrate structure and add complexity.

The wine matures on its lees during this extended aging period, enhancing texture and depth. No fining or filtration was performed prior to bottling, ensuring the purity and authenticity of the wine's character.

### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep, vibrant red with purple highlights.
- **Aromas:** Intense notes of juicy sweet plum, red cherries, and subtle hints of fragrant herbs.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and generous, with rich flavors of ripe fruit, meaty undertones, and well-integrated oak. The tannins are plush and velvety, leading to a long, elegant finish with lingering savory and fruity notes.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Syrah



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### Did you know?

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The **Grains of Paradise** name is inspired by an ancient spice prized for its warm, aromatic qualities, a fitting metaphor for the wine's rich and layered personality. The **Kirche vineyard**, one of the primary sources of fruit, surrounds a historic Lutheran church built in **1864**, adding a touch of heritage to this exceptional wine.

### Wine Pairing Ideas

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- **Grilled ribeye steak with rosemary:** Enhances the wine's savory and meaty notes.
- **Roast lamb with garlic and thyme:** Complements the rich fruit and herbaceous undertones.
- **Beef brisket with smoky barbecue sauce:** Matches the wine's bold flavors and plush texture.
- **Aged cheddar or gouda:** Balances the wine's tannins with creamy, nutty characteristics.



#### James Halliday (JH) : 97 Points (2013)

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*One of the great wines of the Barossa Valley, not just because of its quality, but also its individuality of style. It is traditionally destemmed, plunged and pumped over, the oak providing the X-factor (plus high quality fruit). American oak is sent to France for 3 years air drying, then coopered using the boiling water method to soften the staves for bending, and only once half-made does it receive any fire toasting. Dargaud and Jaegle are the masters. Just relax and let the glorious black fruits sweep you away.*



#### James Suckling (JS) : 90 Points (2012)

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*January, 2015. Dark plummy fruit with a splash of red cherries and mulberries providing the lift. Five-spice powder, red liquorice, fruited chocolate, marzipan, bay leaves, graphite and dark earth. Plenty of texture and flow on the palate though lacking the detail and complexity to take the score higher. Drink in 2018.*



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