

Glaetzer

A commanding expression of Barossa Shiraz, Amon-Ra 2018 delivers opulence, purity, and longevity in a wine that is both powerfully built and impeccably balanced.





Alcohol :15,00 % Composition: 100% Syrah

Amon-Ra 2018

Barossa Valley, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The fruit for Amon-Ra 2018 was sourced from the **Ebenezer subdistrict**, a revered northern sector of the Barossa Valley known for its concentration of **exceptionally old vines**, some over 130 years in age. These vines, deeply rooted in **ironstone-rich and loamy soils**, deliver incredibly low yields—**just 2 tonnes per hectare**—resulting in intense, small-berried fruit with remarkable flavour and structural concentration.

Ebenezer enjoys a **warm, dry Mediterranean climate** with cooling breezes that help to moderate diurnal temperature swings. This contributes to even ripening and flavour complexity. The age of the vines, combined with precise canopy management and drygrown viticulture, allows for a natural balance in the fruit, ensuring depth and vibrancy in each vintage.

Winemaking

Made from **100% Shiraz**, the 2018 Amon-Ra was fermented in small **1- and 2-tonne open fermenters**, with gentle hand plunging conducted three times daily to optimize colour and tannin extraction. Post-fermentation, the wine was transferred to **100% new oak hogsheads—95% French and 5% American**—where it matured for **16 months**.

Importantly, the wine remained on lees throughout élevage, preserving freshness and enhancing texture. It was **bottled unfiltered**, ensuring a minimal intervention approach that captures the integrity of the vineyard and varietal. With **15% alcohol**, a pH of 3.51, and total acidity of 6.32 g/L, this is a wine structured for long-term cellaring, capable of aging gracefully over decades.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Midnight black with deep inky purple tones.
- **Aroma**: Dense and alluring, with layers of blackcurrant, blueberry, espresso, and dried spice. Hints of nutmeg and licorice emerge with aeration.
- **Palate**: Powerful yet poised, the palate is packed with dark berry fruit, cocoa, clove, and smoky spice. Tannins are firm and elongated, driving a finish that is both savoury and unrelenting in length.





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Amon-Ra 2018

Did you know?

The name Amon-Ra refers to the ancient Egyptian god of creation and the sun—a symbol of power, complexity, and eternal life. This name reflects the wine's design: a monumental Shiraz meant to transcend time. Crafted by Ben Glaetzer, a thirdgeneration winemaker, Amon-Ra has become one of Australia's most collectible wines and has earned cult status on the global fine wine stage.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- Chargrilled ribeye with black garlic butter: The wine's depth and spice match the umami and richness of the steak.
- Slow-braised lamb shank with rosemary and red wine jus: A classic pairing for the wine's robust tannins and savory complexity.
- Venison with wild berry reduction: Game meats highlight the wine's dark fruit and peppery character.
- Aged cheddar or Mimolette: Structured cheeses complement the tannic backbone and intense fruit concentration.

Robert Parker (RP): 99 Points (2018)

Certainly one of the best vintages of young Amon Ra I've ever tasted, the 2018 Amon Ra Shiraz is a stupendous effort. From old vines in the Ebenezer section of the northern Barossa, it starts off with a whirlwind of mocha, blackberry and dried spices, then actually gets more red-fruited as it sits in the glass. Full-bodied, rich and concentrated without being jammy or overdone, the wine finishes long and savory, framed by dusty tannins and mouthwatering black olives. Winemaker Ben Glaetzer compares 2018 to 2004 (which continues to drink well). Expect the 2018 to drink well young, but easily age through 2035, perhaps longer.

James Halliday (JH): 95 Points (2018)

From vines 50-130yo in Ebenezer yielding 2t/ha, open-fermented, hand-plunged three times daily, matured for 16 months in new hogsheads (5% American). Full-bodied to the point where it's difficult to give any guidance for cellaring time. Similarly, what will be the guality of the wine as it steadily develops, the points somewhere in the middle of the range of possibilities.

James Suckling (JS) : 94 Points (2018)

Very bold, rich blackberries with very deeply integrated oak spice and a tarry, savory edge, too. The palate is glossy and ripe tannins deliver seamless length and depth with a smooth, soft core of blackberries, blood plums and black cherries. Dense, yet already drinkable. But best from 2024.





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