

Torbreck

A masterfully structured Shiraz-Viognier blend, RunRig 2020 is a monument to the Barossa's oldest vineyards and Rhône-inspired elegance.

TORBRECK
BAROSSA VALLEY



Run Rig 2022

Barossa Valley, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The 2020 RunRig is sourced from six distinct sites across the Barossa Valley: **Lyndoch, Rowland Flat, Moppa, Ebenezer, Light Pass**, and **Greenock**. Each of these sub-regions contributes a unique nuance - from plush, ripe fruit to spicy intensity and mineral drive. Most of these vineyards are home to **dry-farmed, old-vine Shiraz**, some dating back to the 1850s, grown on their own roots — a legacy preserved by South Australia's phylloxera-free status.

The growing season was defined by climatic hardship. **Strong winds during flowering** reduced yields early in the cycle, while a **dry winter and spring**, followed by **a torrid December and January**, further stressed the vines. However, old, deeply rooted vineyards proved resilient, producing **small but deeply concentrated berries**. These harsh conditions forged a wine of formidable color, texture, and purity, anchored in the identity of its place.

Winemaking

Composed of **98% Shiraz** and **2% Viognier**, RunRig pays homage to the co-fermented wines of Côte-Rôtie, while interpreting them through a distinctly Barossa lens. The fruit was picked between **10th March and 3rd April 2020**, with the Viognier integrated to elevate the aromatic complexity and add mid-palate lift.

The wine was matured for **30 months in French oak barriques**, of which **50% were new**, the remainder being second and third fill. It underwent **natural malolactic fermentation in barrel**, followed by an extended period on **fine lees**, enhancing the wine's texture and aromatic harmony. With **15.5% alcohol**, a **pH of 3.60**, and **acidity of 6.38 g/L**, the balance between richness and vibrancy is a hallmark of its pedigree.

Alcohol :15,00 %

Composition: 98% Syrah, 2% Viognier

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep aubergine core with a vibrant purple rim.
- **Aroma**: An expressive bouquet of **blackberry, dark cherry**, and **plum**, intertwined with **Turkish delight, star anise, cardamom, Earl Grey tea**, and subtle oak tones of **vanilla pod** and spice.
- **Palate**: Full-bodied and intensely structured, the wine unfolds in layers of dark fruit, sweet spice, and earthy complexity. Tannins are dense yet finely knit, delivering a luxurious mouthfeel and long, poised finish.

Did you know?

The name **RunRig** refers to a traditional Scottish system of land sharing among Highland clans - a symbol of unity and communal resilience. True to this spirit, RunRig is a **blend of six separate vineyards**, each contributing to a layered and harmonious whole. The subtle inclusion of Viognier is a deliberate nod to the **northern Rhône**, but in Barossa's bold voice.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Beef cheeks braised in red wine**: A dish with deep umami and gelatinous richness that resonates with the wine's density and tannic structure.
- **Duck breast with cherry and star anise glaze**: Elevates the RunRig's spice and dark fruit character while matching its silkiness.
- **Venison loin with forest mushrooms and juniper**: A pairing that enhances the wine's earthy and aromatic facets.
- **Lamb shoulder with Middle Eastern spices**: The wine's robust profile and subtle floral lift balance exotic spice and slow-cooked richness.

97

Robert Parker (RP) : 97 Points (2020)

Tasting the RunRig beside the Descendant is always a wise move, in order to gain some contextual understanding of how they are similar and, perhaps more importantly, how they differ. This 2020 RunRig was sourced from six different vineyards across Barossa (in Lyndoch, Rowland Flat, Moppa, Ebenezer, Light Pass and Greenock) and includes a 2% "dosage" (as winemaker Ian Hongell described it) of Viognier. Matured for 30 months in a combination of new French oak (50%) and second and third fill barrels, the wine rests on its lees for that time. The lower percentage of Viognier here is a seductive and effective thing, adding just enough slick and polish to make this the sybaritic wine that it is, but little enough to allow the grunt, grit and muscle of the Shiraz from all those glorious locations to shine through. Despite the very long time in oak, the wine is balanced and excellent, big in almost every possible way but with an undeniable sense of class and length of flavor. Executed with detail and precision, this wine is clearly defined in its expression of house style.Rating:97+

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James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2020)

This is so aromatic with flowers, orange blossom, and black berries with sliced mushrooms and earth. Surreal. Medium to full body, with bark and blackberry character. Some bramble berry, too. Chewy and delicious. Old vine uniqueness. Some grapes come from vines as old as 1858.

Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 96 Points (2020)

Rich, evocative aromas of mulberry, blueberry, coffee bean and hot-cocoa mix lend approachability to what is otherwise a rich, dense wine, packed with flavor, but also with powerful, chalk dust tannins that need serious protein if opening now. Patience will be rewarded, however. Give this a few more years in bottle