

Tyrrell's

A bold yet refined homage to the Great Australian Red , this 2021 blend of Shiraz and Cabernet delivers depth, elegance, and unmistakable regional expression.

TYRRELL'S

FAMILY WINEMAKERS EST 1858



Alcohol :13,80 %

Composition: 50% Syrah, 50% Cabernet Sauvignon

VAT 8 Shiraz Cabernet 2021

Hunter Valley, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The 2021 vintage marks a return to tradition for Tyrrell's Vat 8, crafted once again as a **multi-regional blend**. The Shiraz is sourced from the finest blocks on the **Ashmans property** in Pokolbin, Hunter Valley—an area long revered for its medium-bodied, expressive Shiraz. The Cabernet Sauvignon component hails from **McLaren Vale**, a maritime-influenced region in South Australia known for producing powerful yet refined Cabernet.

This combination of regions allows the wine to draw upon two distinct terroirs: the red volcanic soils and warm climate of the Hunter Valley bring lifted aromatics and roundness, while McLaren Vale contributes structure, richness, and fine tannins. Together, they form a complex and balanced expression of the traditional Australian Shiraz-Cabernet blend.

Winemaking

The 2021 growing season followed the breaking of a long drought, resulting in excellent vine health and optimal ripening conditions. A cool summer with well-timed warmth around late January provided extended **hang time**, enhancing flavour development and preserving **natural acidity**.

Each grape variety underwent fermentation in **stainless steel vats** and was matured **separately** in **French oak barriques** before blending. The final blend, composed of **60% Shiraz and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon**, was assembled in **November 2021**, then matured further until bottling in **April 2022**. This careful vinification allowed each varietal to contribute its strengths - Shiraz offering plush fruit and generosity, and Cabernet providing backbone and length.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with youthful purple hues.
- **Aroma:** Expressive nose of **plum, blackcurrant**, and **dark chocolate**, accented by subtle cedar and spice from French oak.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied yet polished, with ripe **dark berry fruit**, supple tannins, and vibrant acidity. The Shiraz delivers generosity and sweetness, while the Cabernet adds density, grip, and a long, elegant finish.

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VAT 8 Shiraz Cabernet 2021

Did you know?

The **Winemaker's Selection** range, established in 1965 by **Murray Tyrrell**, represents the most emblematic wines of the estate. The "Vat" names are derived from the numbered casks in which each wine was originally matured - Vat 8 being a classic example of Australia's **Shiraz-Cabernet tradition**, a style that has defined the country's red wine identity for over half a century.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled ribeye steak**: The wine's structure and tannins pair seamlessly with rich, marbled beef.
- **Venison with blackberry jus**: Highlights the dark fruit and savory character of the Cabernet component.
- **Roast lamb with rosemary and garlic**: A classic Australian pairing that complements the Shiraz's generosity and spice.
- **Aged cheddar or manchego**: Hard cheeses underscore the wine's structure and length.

96

Robert Parker (RP) : 96 Points (2021)

The 2021 Vat 9 Hunter Shiraz is everything we want and expect from quality Hunter Valley Shiraz: medium-bodied, mineral, elegant, saturated with red fruit flavor and layered with exotic spice. The tannins are key to enjoyment here; they are very fine, ductile, almost whippy in shape and texture and show such extreme elegance that one cannot imagine what more one could want from tannins. They serve the fruit perfectly. This will only get better. And better. And better.

93 James Halliday

James Halliday (JH) : 93 Points (2021)

A blend of shiraz and cabernet from the Hunter Valley, with the shiraz sourced from premium vineyards on the Tyrrell's property and Moon Mountain vineyard and the cabernet coming from Pokolbin. All of the components were fermented and matured separately until blending. After blending the wine was put back into French oak barriques, 30% of which were new, until bottling. The wine was predominately matured in smaller 225L barriques. As always with Vat 8, we see much darker fruits and some chocolate characters in the wine, along with the extra element of spice from the higher percentage of new oak.