

The “Futures” Shiraz Concept

The release of the 1993 Futures Shiraz is the 9th vintage being offered to lovers of premium Shiraz from the famous McLaren Vale wine region. Crafted as a big, bold, traditionally styled red, but with a modern touch this wine style will reward both drinking and long term cellaring.

The fruit for this wine has been sourced entirely from the company's own vineyards at McLaren Vale, on sandy-loam soils. Sand and Shiraz get along extremely well resulting in rich, ripe and flavoursome fruit

The 1993 vintage was very difficult to manage due to rain (and subsequent floods) and disease problems on many vineyards. Fortunately the “Futures Block” escaped many of these problems, resulting in good quality fruit, with big berries being produced. The fruit attained the maturity necessary for “Futures” and the wine was then made utilising traditional open fermenters which have been used for decades.

To continue to improve this wine style, more oak has been used in the production of this wine. Some was barrel fermented with French oak and the balance is currently maturing in a mix of American oak Barriques and Puncheons. The wine will remain in oak until bottling with the anticipated result being a wine of integration, style and flavour with further cellaring potential.

Tasting Notes (January, 1994)

1993 “Futures” Shiraz (Barrel Sample)

Appearance: Deep purple-mauve colour with youthful tints
Nose: Raspberries with good oak character appearing. Good potential richness with an underlying pepper and leafiness.
Palate: Rich fruit with raspberry/blackberry flavours. Nice vanillin flavour appearing from the American oak.
Comments: This wine is currently in many different types of oak and has not undergone final barrel selection and blending. The weight of the wine is not as high as the '92 vintage due to berry size of the grapes at harvest. More use of new oak will be evident in the bottled product. Cellaring potential is anticipated to be medium to long term. Due to decreased yields only a very limited quantity is available (200 x 3 case offers) for pre-release sale.

1992 “Futures” Shiraz

Appearance: Purple/Black with great density.
Nose: Blackberries overlaid with pepper and generous oak. Good complexity for a youngster.
Palate: Intense fruit almost assaults the tongue but with a softness only Shiraz is capable of. Good integration of fruit and oak but is definitely one for the cellar.
Comments: This wine was judged the Best wine in McLaren Vale in 1993, rewarding it The “Bushing King” office, a further two Trophies, 1Gold, 5 Silver and 4 Bronze medals and reflects the future aims of the company .

1991 “Futures” Shiraz

Appearance: Purple to Brick-red with good intensity.
Nose: Rich fruit and oak are evident but is restrained at present. Some leafiness is also evident.
Palate: Full flavoured fruit is well integrated with gentle oak. Firm tannins combine well with a long persistent finish.
Comments: This vintage appears to be a late developer and has many similarities to the 1993 wine about to be released. This wine is still available in Magnum (1500mL) bottles.

1990 “Futures” Shiraz

Appearance: Deep ruby red with some purple and Brick-red tints.
Nose: Mulberries and raspberries with subtle oak influence indicating generosity.
Palate: Rich fruit supported by assertive tannins but with softness and good integration. Some bottle development beginning to show. Very good cellaring potential.
Comments: A wine from an excellent vintage and was the first wine to incorporate oak influence to the style. Further medium term cellaring is recommended but monitor corks if extended cellaring is to be contemplated.