



ROLF BINDER

BAROSSA VALLEY



"The wine shows great fruit, texture and lineage; it is a very defined wine with great power yet shows an elegance that entices the drinker. This will be an excellent wine for cellaring."

- Rolf Binder

2014 BULL'S BLOOD® Shiraz - Mataro Pressings

Winemaker: Rolf Binder.

The Hungarian 'Bikaver' wine translates to 'Bulls Blood' and dates back to the 1500s when the Hungarians were fighting the Turks. It was a wine for strength in battle! The first Veritas 'Bulls Blood' was produced in 1967 by R. H. Binder and the label remains relatively unchanged. Now an Australian 'cult' wine and one that collectors enjoy.

THE VINTAGE:

A really good winter and early spring rains filled the soils and set the vines upwell for the season. Late spring and summer were dry and warm with significant heat records being set. By February the first reds were picked, but on Valentine's Day the season changed and between 100-150mm of rain fell in just over 24 hours. This caused the rush of the early vintage to slow down and the rest of vintage progressed at an almost leisurely pace. The Barossa Valley experienced generally lower than average crops, but plenty of flavour and acid.

THE WINEMAKING:

The blend is 70% Shiraz with 30% Mataro from vines planted in the 1880s on the Binder Chri-Ro vineyard. Vines are hand-pruned and hand-picked. open fermented with pump overs twice daily, resulting in a 7 day fermentation process. At the end of fermentation on skins the juice is drained off. The remaining skins still contain a large amount of fermenting juice and due to the contact with the ripe skins contain wonderful, rich flavours. The skins are gently pressed then the wine is fermented to dryness, racked and placed in American and French oak puncheons, comprising 80% new oak.

ANALYSIS: Alc. Vol 14.1% - Acidity 6.5 g/l - pH 3.43

THE PROFILE:

Mulled spicy fruit, rounded oak, subdued rich chocolates. Displays a mellow richness that is classy and definitive. The immediate evidence of weight, texture and spice launch the palate. The richness that leads onto the palate is wonderful; showing exotic spice, stone fruit, mulberries and hints of dark chocolate. The mid palate builds immediately with depth, texture and rich luscious tannins emerging. The back palate is solid, strong showing some wild berries, coating the mouth with great length and persistent flavours. The weight is powerful and mouth-filling, with a clear, round and soft finish. Evident tannins; a perfect blend of oak and fruit.

CELLARING:

Bull's Blood is a wine that has been popular amongst collectors for many years. The wine is approachable now, but will shine in 7-15 years and drink beautifully as an aged wine until 2033.

REVIEW: 2014 BULL'S BLOOD SHIRAZ MATARO PRESSINGS:

Rating - 94 points, Drink to 2034

Smoked meat, char and a ferruginous roar of grapey tannin across tobacco leaf and dried sage flavours tie this full-bodied wine neatly together. The connotations of name and method belie the savoury, textural and moreish end result. 14.0% alc.

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