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KALLESKE JOHANN GEORG SHIRAZ 2005

Johann Georg Shiraz is produced in South Australia's Barossa Valley, by the Kalleske family who have been farming and growing grapes since the 1800s. It is a genuine estate wine - grown, vintaged and matured on the Kalleske estate at Greenock. Johann Georg Shiraz is a single vineyard wine produced from the oldest vineyard on the Kalleske farm. The wine is a tribute to Johann Georg Kalleske, the first Kalleske ancestor to migrate to Australia. Johann Georg was born in Brätz, Prussia in 1794 and migrated to South Australia with his wife and children in 1838.

Growing Season:

The 2005 growing season started with a wet Winter and Spring, providing excellent moisture for the vines. A cooler than average Summer with no heat waves resulted in gradual ripening and retained natural acidity in the grapes. A dry, mild to warm Autumn with sunny days provided ideal ripening conditions to finish the grapes to maturity. A good vintage with intense flavours.

Vineyard:

This vineyard was planted in 1875 and produces very low yields of around one tonne per acre from old, gnarly, dry grown vines. The top soil is sandy with excellent clay subsoil.

Winemaking:

The old Shiraz vines were harvested on the 30th March and the grapes gently destemmed into a small open top fermenter. The grapes were fermented for nine days on skins where hand pumpovers were employed two to three times daily. The must was basket pressed and immediately filled to new and seasoned French & American oak hogsheads where it completed fermentation. The wine was matured in hogsheads for two years prior to bottling. Johann Georg Shiraz is bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

Tasting Notes:

The colour is deep black-red. On the nose there are powerful aromatics of dark berries, plum, cinnamon, aniseed, coffee, cedar and chocolate. The full-bodied muscular palate is rich and dense with finely textured tannins and fleshy dark fruit. A weighty and sophisticated wine with a great balance. The intense flavours linger for a long time giving this wine a generous finish. A magnificent wine that whilst drinks well upon release will ultimately benefit from a decade or more in the cellar.