



DOMINIQUE PORTET

Yarra Valley

DOMINIQUE PORTET SHIRAZ 2015

Vine

Heathcote naturally lends Shiraz intensity and power, which we like to offset by picking ripe grapes relatively early - when they're at their best and brightest. Shiraz was the star variety in Heathcote in 2015 – itself a fabulous vintage for Victorian reds. We had average winter and spring rains before a mild, cooler-than-average summer. These conditions are ideal for building intense, complex aromas in the fruit while retaining its vitality. The Shiraz grapes grow on the western side of Heathcote, towards Mount Camel, where mineral-rich soils seem to imbue the wines with a graphite quality.

Wine

We harvested the Shiraz grapes by hand on 19th February. We sorted the bunches before destemming the majority with state-of-the-art equipment that ensures only totally healthy fruit goes into the ferment. A portion was crushed and a portion was fermented as whole berries. About 15% whole bunches were included for heightened spice and freshness, and these were spread across the two portions. The must was fermented at cool temperatures in stainless steel tanks for three weeks in order to build silky tannins and develop the structure to age. We then matured the wine for 15 months in tight-grained French oak (15% new) split between barriques (40%) and puncheons (60%). We find that adding puncheons to the mix allows the oak to integrate better, as well as preserving fresh fruit purity.

Glass

The fragrance and feel of this **Dominique Portet Shiraz 2015** epitomises cool-climate Shiraz, albeit with typical Heathcote depth. Notes of blue flowers, blueberries and red fruit play over notes of white pepper and spice, and the interplay of bright fruit and savoury characters continues on a palate that has excellent concentration and intrigue while remaining light on its feet. The wine glides through the mouth with lovely, fine tannins that propel it to a long and graceful finish. This will cellar well but is irresistibly complete as a young wine.

Released: November 2017

Alcohol: 14%

RRP: \$55

Closure: Cork

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ABOUT DOMINIQUE PORTET

The Yarra Valley winery was established in 2000 by Bordeaux-raised Dominique Portet, whose family's winemaking history stretches back 10 consecutive generations to 18th century France. Dominique and son Ben craft fresh, elegant, expressive wines from Sparkling Rosé to Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz, coolly grown in the Victorian regions of the Yarra Valley and Heathcote.