



BlackJack 2010 Block 6 Shiraz

VINEYARD & VINTAGE

Blackjack Vineyards is situated on an easterly slope, in the old apple-and-pear-growing district of the Harcourt Valley in the foothills of Mt Alexander. Although just south of Bendigo, the climate is considerably cooler, and we are normally blessed with “Indian Summer” autumns — cool nights and warm clear days — allowing the grapes to slowly ripen. Vintages are typically harvested in late April to early May. The soils are mostly very old, sandy not overly fertile granitic soils, although part of Block 6 is on what we call Castlemaine sandstone gravel. The vineyard is hand pruned and hand harvested. The Block 6 was planted in 1998 and is a different clone from the original Shiraz.

A warm-to-hot summer was punctuated by more significant rainfall than we’d had for the previous few years, but it was well timed and didn’t have any adverse effects on fruit quality. All fruit harvested was in excellent condition, with absolutely no disease issues.

It was a comfortable vintage that started in early April and ran for a couple of weeks. Yields were pretty much average.

WINEMAKING

Fermented in traditional open fermenters, hand plunged, and aged in French oak barriques (about a third new) for 22 months. No finings and minimal filtration at bottling.

TASTING

Although less shy than in previous years, the Block 6 still plays the role of the quiet younger brother to its Estate sibling. Its sophistication and style will, however, offer plenty to those wishing to drink it young. There are hints of mocha and black cherry on the nose, with intermingled lavender, fine pepper and a lovely earthy quality. These flavours follow on to an amazingly silky, smooth palate, with fine, ripe tannins and a long, clean finish. The balance of flavours here means the wine will drink particularly well young, preferably with something slow cooked to work with the supple texture of the wine.

ANALYSIS

Harvested: April 2010

100 per cent shiraz from Block 6 planting.

Bottled: March 2012

pH: 3.60

Acidity: 6.0g/L

Volatile Acidity: 0.53g/L

Alcohol: 13.5%

DISTRIBUTORS:

Vintners

Phone: (03) 9872 5775 | Email: sales@vintnersmerchants.com.au | Web: www.vintnersmerchants.com.au

Released: June 2012 RRP: \$35–40 bottle



BlackJack Vineyards

PO Box 67 Harcourt, Victoria 3453 Telephone/facsimile (03) 5474 2355
Email: sales@blackjackwines.com.au Website: www.blackjackwines.com.au