



JOHANN'S GARDEN BUSH VINE GRENACHE MOURVÈDRE SHIRAZ 2004

Grape Varieties

69% grenache, 19% mourvèdre and 12% shiraz grapes from selected vineyards growing in the Barossa Valley.

Wine Description

Deep crimson in colour. Sweet lifted ripe spicy black berry fruits, raspberry plums anise cloves and mace aromas. A rich spicy sweet palate, fleshy textured with succulent fruit, well structured with grainy chewy tannins and excellent length.

Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage, drink 2005 to 2009.

Serving Idea

Slow-cooked lamb with quinces.

Technical Data

Harvest date:	30 March-6 May
Alcohol:	15.5%
pH	3.43
Acid:	6.3g/l

Background

Named as a tribute to the early Barossa Lutheran pioneers, many of whom carried Johann as their first name. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant that the many generations that followed rejoiced in the riches of their prudent efforts. The grenache is just one of those blessings and has been appropriately named after Johann Alfred Zobel, whose 70-year-old vines growing on the banks of the North Para form the base of this wine. Barossa growers traditionally referred to their vineyard as their 'garden'. The traditions and culture have survived to this day including the winemaking techniques used in this grenache blend. It is produced from low-yielding, old, gnarled, dry-grown bush vines from selected vineyards.

Vintage Description

The average winter rainfall this season was a welcome relief after 2003's fourth-worst drought in history. A relatively frost-free, wet warm and thundery spring followed, creating a natural 'greenhouse' effect. The vines grew vigorously, flowered and in general set a large crop. December was the hottest for 10 years, however at the start of 2004 the weather became mild and windy and the vines thrived under virtually no heat stress. At the start of February searing heat caused sunburn and significant crop losses. New records were broken with South Australia experiencing its hottest day ever. Fortunately March returned the region to glorious sunny days and cold dewy nights, with a couple of minor rain events, allowing the fruit to ripen under near perfect conditions. The vintage was almost as late as 2002 with good yields and excellent fruit quality.

TASTING NOTES