



2022 Izway Don Shiraz

During my time in the Barossa I have been privileged to work with some of the greatest Vineyards and Viticulturalists in the Valley. Adrian Hoffmann's vineyards in Ebenezer have always resonated with me, and his philosophy, knowledge, and passion are virtually unmatched in our region. 'The Don' has been aptly named as the head of the Izway family, in a similar vein to the status that Adrian is gaining with his peers in the Barossa Valley. This single vineyard wine encompasses all that is great about our region; old vines and soils, traditional and progressive viticulture and winemaking and a sublime texture that is virtually unachievable anywhere else in the world.

The Vintage

The 2021/2022 growing season continued our run of cool vintages, with bountiful spring rain and no days recorded above 37 degrees. These cool harvests allow us to create pure, energetic, balanced wines and give us the flexibility in the winery to schedule perfect picking dates and gentle, controlled maceration. There was one isolated but significant hailstorm that affected a narrow band of the Barossa on the 28th of October, which unfortunately smashed our home vineyard, as well as the Harold Vineyard in Eden Valley. All other sites remained unaffected, and the season delivered slightly below-average yields, healthy canopies, and perfectly ripe bunches. While I believe 2021 will be considered a higher quality harvest, the wines of 2022 are still exceptional in their own right, and will equally drink beautifully young and age with poise, balance, and refinement.

Winemaking

Vinification began with a natural soak for three days, followed by seven days natural fermentation in Stainless Steel Vats. During fermentation, we carefully managed extraction through manual plunging, pigeage, delestage and open-air pump overs. Once alcoholic fermentation was complete, the skins were basket-pressed before being transferred to oak for malolactic fermentation.

The Wine

As has been typical of the past three releases of this wine, the 2022 Don opens quietly, with subtle spicy fruit and potpourri evolving into high-toned and elevated aromatics. Customary hints of cacao, coffee, tar, and tea layer with pitted dates and sexy French oak. The diversity continues to the palate, with refined energy and richness flowing effortlessly towards a ripe and long tannin structure. Olive tapenade, dark cacao, and liquorice dance towards a juicy, saline centre like a decadent lindt lindor chocolate. A very similar style to 2021, where patient reward cellaring will be rewarded.

The Vineyard

Vineyard:	Hoffmann Dimchurch
Sub Appellation:	Ebenezer
Planted:	1950
Elevation:	283m
Soil:	Red/brown earth over dark red clays with a separating layer of chalky limestone

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Craig Isbel'.

Craig Isbel
Winemaker