

Bannockburn

Shiraz 1314 a.d 2011

Bannockburn Vineyards was established by Stuart Hooper in 1974. His vision was to create a vineyard which would produce Australian wine of a quality to emulate the great wines of France, in particular the great Burgundies. Stuart Hooper had a purist, uncompromising approach to quality grape growing and winemaking. He had a strong belief in making wines which genuinely reflect the flavours of the vineyard.

Although Stuart has since passed away, Bannockburn Vineyards remains in the Hooper family and his philosophy remains as the cornerstone behind all we do at Bannockburn today.

Winemaker's Note:

Hand picked, primarily from our 1990 planted Winery Block (but also including portions of the Range and De La Roche single vineyard lots). 60% whole bunch fermentation, indigenous yeast, approximately four weeks on skins. 12 months in French hogsheads (predominately Remond, 20% new), then racked to older puncheons.

A 'new' release from the Bannockburn cellars. Bannockburn, who has a very fine 2011 Shiraz waiting in the wings, so to speak, made the decision to declassify a number of their Shiraz parcels in 2011. Et voila, the first ever 1314 a.d. Shiraz. The fruit for this wine was predominantly culled from Winery Block (planted in the early 1990's) though also takes in a portion of fruit from the single-parcel Range and De la Roche vineyards. Fermented naturally with 60% whole bunches, and matured in one third new French oak hogsheads (predominately Remond in Ladoix-Serrigny). Racked at 12 months then returned to older puncheons for another 8 months of maturation. No fining and minimal filtration.

It's an attractive, lighter-bodied style of Bannockburn Shiraz, with a smoky, paprika-spicy and redcurrant-ish fragrance, followed by more of the same on the palate, alongside decayed floral, spice and pepper notes. A fine value mature release that's ready to enjoy.

4 Stars - By Huon Hooke

