

The Reviews – 2000 Shiraz

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2000 SANGUINE ESTATE HEATHCOTE SHIRAZ

Region: Heathcote, Victoria - Australia Tasting Date : 14/9/2001

Heathcote is being hailed as potentially the greatest area in Australia for the production of extraordinary Shiraz. Wine analysts have declared the region to be the “New Coonawarra of Australia”.

The quality that makes Heathcote so special is the unique Cambrian Earth, which is said to be over 500 million years old- and the oldest soil on the planet. Shiraz seems to ooze out of the ground, producing wine of incredible depth of colour and flavour. Jasper Hill and Mt Ida vineyards were early pioneers- today their wines are very expensive and almost unprocurable. Sanguine Estate represents a new generation of winemakers who have recognized the potential of the Cambrian Earth, and are putting up serious money to make serious wines. Tony Hunter and his family have made a strong commitment to pursue quality, and the first release from the vineyard is nothing short of being extraordinary. Cropped at around 1/3 of a ton per acre, the vines yield a concentration of

blackberry and blackpepper flavours that is unmatched in any other wine growing district in Australia. TASTING NOTES: *Opaque crimson mauve colour. The nose is enormous and heralds the power of the palate and aftertaste. Strong aroma of spice, blackpeppers, blackberry concentrate, plum, spicy oak and liquorice fill the head with a wonderful aroma of ripe shiraz. The palate is explosive- if the term fruit bomb was to be applied to a wine, then this is it. Blackpepper, blackberry and spice flavours encase every crevice of the palate. Fine grained tannins, perfect balance, followed by an exceptionally long aftertaste of blackberries, blackpepper, plum and spice.* THE START OF A NEW AUSTRALIAN CLASSIC. RATING: 98/100 VALUE: XXXXX/5

Ramapo Wine Club president Ed Assidio (United States)

2000 Heathcoate Sanguine Shiraz

Had the 2000 Sanguine Shiraz at an impromptu tasting yesterday with Steve and Nancy Levy. We started with a couple bottles of the 1997 Bin 407 Cabernet Sauvignon from Penfolds that Steve picked up at the Wine Library for an everyday house red. The Penfolds Cab was indeed good but we all had a yearning for something a little bit more substantial. So, I headed downstairs to locate and pop one of the newly released Sanguine's. This wine rocked me as well as everyone else who tasted it. To my notes:

2000 Heathcoate Sanguine Shiraz- Medium fullish color suggesting ink and oil. Huge bouquet of spice, black pepper, blackberry compote, licorice and spicy oak aromas explode from the glass! This is another wine that was a complete hit from the get-go and only improved with airtime.

Palate mirrors the nose and comes across as medium full-to-full bodied with a substantial lashing of fruit, stunning extract and a powerful presence in the mouth. Huge initial and mid palate presence offering up crushed blackberry flavored fruit with moderate oak and a black pepper and spice component that was simply extraordinary! Finished with a 45 second residual sensation. This is truly a unique style of Shiraz that has made me an instant fan! Drink it over the next ten years. My first tasting note, score it "97"!