Balgownie Estate

## 2008 BALGOWNIE ESTATE SHIRAZ

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| WINEMAKER: | Mark Lane |
| REGION: | Bendigo, Victoria, Australia |
| VARIETALS: | 98% Shiraz, 2% Viognier |
| MATURATION: | 16 months in new and older French oak |
| ALCOHOL: | 14.5% alc/vol |

### WINEMAKING:

2008 vintage was a cooler season blessed with good rainfall on the Estate. This resulted in an above average harvest and fruit of excellent quality, with the Shiraz fruit displaying excellent colors and concentration. The fruit for this wine was hand-plunged in a combination of traditional open fermenters and stainless steel tank fermenters.

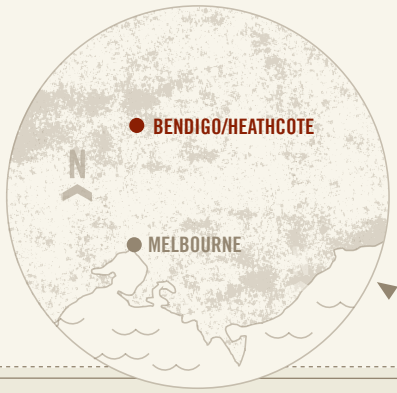
### TASTING NOTES:

This shows the typical deep red color of Balgownie Shiraz, with vibrant berry fruit aromas and subtle use of oak. The palate shows rich blackberry, licorice and splashes of red fruit enlivened with hints of spice; fine tannins, long finish. The wine is medium-bodied, concentrated, yet elegant with a velvety texture and fine lingering tannins. While approachable in its youth, it can be cellared over the medium to long term.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 92 pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 91 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 90 pts/Best Buy Wine & Spirits

### ABOUT BALGOWNIE ESTATE:

Balgownie Estate is one of Australia's greatest small vineyard estates. Located near the historic gold mining town of Bendigo in central Victoria, the estate was established in 1968 on a superb site of alluvial soil. From the first vintage in 1972, Balgownie Estate's wines drew critical acclaim, setting the pace for the many who followed by planting vines in the area. Now the most respected name in the region, the wines stand as benchmarks of a central Victorian style reliant on well-ripened fruit, distinctive local terroir and sympathetic use of oak.



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