



2009 HAZARD HILL SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER:	John Durham
REGION:	Predominantly Geographe, Blackwood and Great Southern regions of Western Australia's south west
VARIETALS:	100% Shiraz
ANALYSIS:	14.8 alc/vol 5.9 g/L TA 3.55 pH

VINTAGE REPORT:

2009 was a dry hot year characterized by moderate vine growth and yield; a welcome mild spring moved into quite a warm early summer and by late February hot conditions prevailed until cooling rains mid March. Definitely one for the record books - the shortest vintage ever. Harvest was over by mid March with heroic sugar levels in the range from 26- 30 Brix and acids in the low fives. Yields were between two to four tons per acre.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes are fermented at warm temperatures in closed fermenters followed by a gently pressing. Each batch is kept separate and aged in a combination of stainless steel tank and oak barrels. Microoxidation is employed to some degree with the wines left in stainless steel tank to harmonize the structure.

TASTING NOTES:

A savory dusty aroma of licorice and cocoa powder with ripe prune/plum fruit aromas reflecting the very warm vintage. A lush, plump, soft and supple wine that seeps across the palate, with fleshy fruit notes of prunes and stewed cherries, and a dash of spice finishing with structured silky fine tannins and a soft warm finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

88 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 88 pts Wine Spectator

ABOUT PLANTAGENET:

An historic producer, Plantagenet Wines was the first winery to be established in Western Australia's Great Southern wine region. Named after the local Shire of Plantagenet, the winery was founded in 1968 when English immigrant Tony Smith identified the potential of these wild and remote lands by planting vines on his Mount Barker property. His initial plantings impressed, producing Rhône-style Shirazes and stylish Cabernet Sauvignons, soon to be joined by Pinot Noir, Riesling and Chardonnay. These aromatic varieties thrived in the cool, continental climate, and Plantagenet has gone on to become one of the leading names in the region, as well as a driving force in establishing the Great Southern as a distinctive, quality-focused Australian wine region.



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