



## 2008 BALGOWNIE ESTATE SHIRAZ

### Review Summary



**92 pts** “Deep garnet colored with a purple tinge to the rim, the 2008 Shiraz offers notes of ripe blackberries and mulberries with supporting notes of black pepper, star anise, tar and a whiff of eucalypt. Full bodied with ample fruit and black pepper laced flesh, it has a firm grip of tight-knit, grainy tannins and medium-high acid. It finishes long and savory. Approachable now, it should soften with another year in bottle and drink through 2020. Founded as a boutique winery in 1969 by Stuart Anderson, after a series of various owners Balgownie was purchased by the Forrester brothers who have invested a lot of money to get the now 40 year old vineyards back into shape. The current winemaker is Mark Lane who spent many years in Margaret River. The pay-off of recent changes is clearly showing in the wines and at \$25 a bottle, both the 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz are bargains in my book!”

**Lisa Perotti-Brown, erobertparker.com**  
June 2011

**91 pts** “Full bodied and richly textured, this is a lush, velvety Shiraz that nevertheless seems to possess enough structure to age successfully. Cassis, molasses and vanilla all play roles in the aroma and flavor profiles, while a mocha note chimes in on the long finish.”

**Joe Czerwinski, Wine Enthusiast**  
February 2013

**91 pts** “Earthy and a bit sour on the nose with salty plum notes, low nutty oak, some beefy elements and fine black fruit accented with a nuance of juniper. This is a bit dense and almost chewy, though there’s nice acidity here. The tannins are ripe and fairly full, adding to the volume in the mouth. Not a fruit bomb by any stretch of the imagination, this shows ripe plum and black berry fruit paired with modest levels of toasty, nutty oak. Rich and a bit forceful in the mouth, this remains poised and just a little tight right through the moderately long, lightly mineral-laced dried berry finish. Lovely focus. I can see this improving a bit in the bottle.”

**Gregory Dal Piaz, www.Snooth.com**  
February 2012

**91 pts** “Vivid ruby. High-pitched aromas of redcurrant and cherry, with complicating notes of rose, spicecake and smoky minerals. Taut and energetic, offering sappy red and dark fruit flavors and a sexy violet pastille quality. Silky tannins add shape to the spicy, penetrating, very long finish. Balanced and elegant for Aussie Shiraz, as usual.”

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar**  
July/August 2011



**90 pts - Year's Best Australian Shiraz – Best Buy** “A rustic and pleasingly old-fashioned style of Shiraz, this wine is completely savory up front, with scents of black mushrooms and mineral grit. A touch of fruit sweetness gentles the finish, bringing black raspberry flavor up against the tannins.”

**Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits  
October 2011**

“This classy Shiraz shows Bendigo’s potential for brilliant reds.”

**Food & Wine Wine Guide  
2013**

