



2013 INNOCENT BYSTANDER SYRAH

Review Summary



92 pts/TOP 100 BEST BUYS OF THE YEAR “Predominantly from Phil Sexton’s Tarraford Vineyard, with some fruit from Lone Star Creek Vineyard in the Upper Yarra, this blend includes 40 percent whole bunches and a long cold soak before fermentation. Splash this around in a decanter and the initial pruniness blows off, the wine turning brighter, red fruited and delicate, showing restraint in its ripeness even if the tannins are dark and brawny. There’s crushed pink and green peppercorn spice to brighten the finish, making this compellingly drinkable.”

Joshua Greene
Wine & Spirits Magazine
October 2015

91 pts “Deep ruby. Fresh and expansive on the nose, displaying intense cherry, blueberry, licorice and violet scents along with suave Indian spice and potpourri flourishes. Plush and creamy on the palate, offering gently sweet black and blue fruit flavors that deepen and become spicier with air. A rich, nicely balanced Syrah with no rough edges. Velvety tannins give shape to the very long, spicy finish, which lingers with notes of star anise and cracked pepper.”

Josh Reynolds
Vinous
March 2016

90 pts “Complex earth, herb and forest floor notes complement the dark berry flavors, with hints of kirsch and black walnut. The tannins gain some traction on the finish.”

MaryAnn Worobiec
Wine Spectator
February 2017 – “Our Ultimate Guide to Value”



90 pts “Bright, fresh and firm; medium-bodied, with a spray of red and black fruits, spice and cracked pepper. It’s all about the fruit, not oak; all up mainstream cool climate style.”

James Halliday
Australian Wine Companion
2015

87 pts “Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2013 Syrah offers a moderate intensity of red and black plum aromas with hints of black pepper, aniseed and Mediterranean herbs. Medium-bodied, it leads with firm, somewhat astringent tannins that render the fruit a little lean, finishing tannic and savory. This is a pleasant alternative to fruit forward Shiraz.”

Lisa Perrotti-Brown
Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate
February 2015

