

2014 INNOCENT BYSTANDER SYRAH



Review Summary

93 pts/TOP 100 BEST BUYS OF THE YEAR “Steve Flamsteed produces one of the best values in Australian shiraz under the Innocent Bystander label (a brand recently sold to Brown Brothers). His 2014 is beautifully fresh, with the otherworldly scent of the flowers and scrub of the Australian bush after a refreshing rain. It has the coolness of freshly turned earth, the earthy-fruity richness of a mushroom ripped from a stump in the woods. This is simpler and not as substantial as the Mea Culpa Syrah, but no less delicious.”

Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits Magazine
October 2016

92 pts “Brilliant violet. A heady, smoke-tinged bouquet evokes fresh dark fruits, olive paste and potpourri, and a spicy nuance emerges slowly. Fine-grained and focused on the palate, offering energetic black and blue fruit and spiced flavors that deepen and spread out on the back half. Powerful yet graceful in style, finishing with impressive energy and subtle tannins that fold smoothly into the energetic fruit.”

Josh Reynolds, Vinous
October 2017

91 pts “This pitch black colored Syrah from Australia opens with an interesting salami, black olive and wet concrete bouquet. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied, slightly acidic and savory. The flavor profile is a mineral infused gentle blackberry with notes of oak and a hint of dark chocolate. The finish is dry and its flavors subtly drift away. The Panel suggested pairing this good value Syrah with Mediterranean lamb chops or sliders.”

KensWineGuide.com
January 21, 2017

89 pts “The tannins show an appealing density and a chewy edge, with licorice, blackberry and black cherry flavors, accented by details of Earl Grey tea. Offers plenty of focus.”

MaryAnn Worobiec, Wine Spectator
June 2016