

2008 JOHN DUVAL PLEXUS

WINEMAKER: John Duval
REGION: Barossa Valley, South Australia
VARIETALS: Shiraz (52%), Grenache (26%), Mourvedre (22%)
MATURATION: 16 months in French oak (10% new)
ALCOHOL: 14.5% alc/vol

PLEXUS: An interwoven combination of parts or elements in a structure or system

VINTAGE NOTES:

The 2008 vintage started with favorable flowering conditions. After a few hot days in December, January and February were relatively mild with excellent conditions for ripening. The harvest started with Shiraz from the Krondorf region on the 5th of February. By the end of February all of the best Shiraz blocks had been harvested, which proved to be good timing to avoid the heat wave experienced in Southern Australia in early March. With careful vineyard monitoring, Grenache and Mourvedre were harvested before it became over ripe. The 2008 vintage shows excellent fruit richness, with ample tannin and acidity to balance the richness.

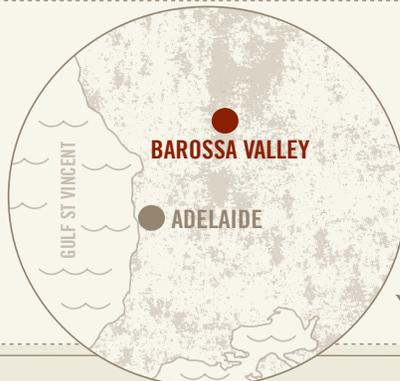
TASTING NOTES:

The 2008 vintage of Plexus is an intricately structured blend comprised of rich and vibrant fruit from Barossa Valley's old, low yielding vines. A true reflection of Barossa's soil and climate, Plexus expresses aromatic red fruits that are supported by ripe plums and earthy spice and savory oak characters. The palate is rich, round and full of concentrated, bright berry fruit. These flavors are balanced by vibrant acidity and soft, ripe tannins. A touch of oak adds complexity to a long and layered finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 93+ pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 93 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 90 pts Wine Spectator, 90 pts Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT JOHN DUVAL WINES:

John Duval is one of Australia's most highly-regarded winemakers. As Chief Winemaker and custodian of Australia's famous Grange, he was instrumental in establishing Penfolds as one of the world's great wineries. Inspired by the Barossa Valley's old vine vineyards, John established his own label in 2002 and now crafts intense, focused wines that are as distinctive as the region's diverse terroir.



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