



2008 JOHN DUVAL WINES PLEXUS SGM

Review Summary



95 pts - Best of the Best by Variety “Purple-red; Barossa Valley blends of Shiraz/Grenache/Mourvedre seldom have the poise, conviction or richness of this wine; the flavors are multi-layered yet not the least jammy, the tannins particularly good, the length all one can ask for.”

**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion
2011**

93+ pts “The 2008 Plexus Shiraz Grenache Mourvedre is a decidedly Shiraz dominant version of this classic blend. Deep garnet-purple colored, it gives an abundance of Indian spice aromas – cumin seed, fenugreek and cloves - over raspberry cordial, preserved blackberry, dusty earth, powdered cinnamon and moss covered tree bark. The full-bodied palate displays the elegance of this blend in its effortless harmony, offering a medium-high level of very fine tannins, crisp acid and ample opulent flesh with a long finish. Drink it now to 2018+.”

**Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate
December 2010**

93 pts “A blend of 53% Shiraz, 26% Grenache, and 21% Mourvedre that’s aged in a scant 10% new French oak (mostly aged in 3-year-old larger barrels), the 2008 John Duval Wines Plexus is a brilliantly put together blend that boasts top-notch aromas of black currants, red plums, sappy underbrush, mint, candied flowers, and pepper on the nose. While it’s upfront and loaded with fruit, it nevertheless has uncommon depth and complexity. On the palate, it is seamless and polished, with a full-bodied, elegant texture, integrated acidity, and beautiful purity of fruit that shines through the finish. Classic stuff that is more than a little impressive; it will drink beautifully for 10-15 years.”

**Jeb Dunnuck, The Rhone Report
March 2012**

93 pts “Inky ruby. Expressive black raspberry and cherry aromas are complicated by black and white pepper and incense. A floral note comes up air and carries onto the palate, joining sweet red and dark berry preserve flavors and undertones of anise and candied rose. A hint of candied flowers lingers on a very long, sappy finish. I’d have no problem drinking this now. For a wine from a ripe vintage this is quite elegant.”

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
July/August 2010**



92 pts “Super peppery on the nose with a rather unusual blend of floral and soil aromas along with a hint of India ink forming a base for the blueberry fruit. The oak builds a bit in the glass showing a fair veneer with air. This enters the mouth with excellent focus with a fairly bright, taut style that reveals the perfumes of flowers, green coffee, meat and something vaguely sassafras-like before the light fruit arrives. The fruit is reticent but there are flashes of great blueberry and red cherry/cranberry fruit on the mid-palate that leads to a peppery, slightly hot finish that shows really excellent depth to that succulent red berry fruit. This needs time to come together but it is already admirably complex and should improve over the next 2-5 years.”

Gregory Dal Piaz, Snooth.com
January 2013

92 pts “A winning blend of 52% Shiraz, 26% Grenache and 22% Mourvedre, this features ripe but nevertheless fresh fruit recalling both red and black berries. Backed by notable but ripe tannins and fairly restrained oak, this is juicy and flavorful but classy and interesting at the same time. Very well balanced, it is ready to enjoy now but will become even more complex for another five years. Platinum award winner at the San Diego International Wine Competition.”

Michael Franz, WineReviewOnline.com
March 20, 2012

91 pts

Nick Stock, Good Wine Guide
2012

90 pts “Bright and jazzy, with a smoky edge to the tart blackberry and cherry flavors, picking up a licorice note on the finish. Has complexity and balance, and cellaring should bring it all together. Shiraz, Grenache and Mourvèdre.”

Harvey Steiman, Wine Spectator Insider
May 12, 2010

90 pts “For the past several years, Duval’s Plexus has been remarkably consistent in quality. The only indication here that 2008 was a difficult vintage (because of the heat) is this wine’s creamy immediacy, which suggests early consumption (now–2015). The blackberry fruit is fresh and briary, spiced with hints of cedar and vanilla; lush and long on the finish.”

Joe Czerwinski, Wine Enthusiast
October 1, 2010

“This beautifully balanced red blend highlights dark fruit and expertly integrated oak.”

Food & Wine, Wine Guide
2012



“Another red blend I discovered and am very fond of is the “Plexus” from John Duval. This blend consists of 53% Shiraz, 26% Grenache, and 21% Mourvedre. It opens with an attractive black-raspberry bouquet with a hint of boysenberry and pomegranate. It is very smooth and shows off tasty blackberry flavors with some gentle oak and black-raspberry blended in. You will find it to be an ideal match for barbecued steak tips.”

**Ken Hoggins, KensWineGuide.com
February 2011**

