

2017 JOHN DUVAL PLEXUS SGM



WINEMAKER: John Duval
REGION: Barossa Valley, South Australia
VARIETALS: Shiraz (51%), Grenache (32%), Mourvedre (17%)
MATURATION: 15 months in 100% French oak hogsheads (10% new)
ANALYSIS: 14.1% alc/vol | 6.20 g/L TA | 3.58 pH

VINTAGE: The 2017 vintage was defined by excellent winter and spring rains. The plentiful rains led to ample canopy coverage and a healthy fruit set. Summer was mild, which in combination with healthy yields resulted in vintage starting some four weeks later than in 2016. Shiraz was first picked in the Light Pass area on the 10th of March and finished on the 20th of April in Eden Valley.

WINEMAKING: The Shiraz was sourced from old vineyards in the Tanunda, Krondorf and Ebenezer districts, Grenache from the Tanunda and Ebenezer region, and Mourvèdre from the Light Pass region. Traditional, low intervention techniques are employed. Fermentation occurred with submerged cap and small open stainless steel fermenters. The wine was 100% barrel matured for 14 months, with just 10% new fine grain French oak hogsheads (300L barrels); with the balance in three to six-year-old barrels.

TASTING NOTES: The nose shows lifted aromas of red fruits, rose petals and dried herbs enhanced by cinnamon and earth. The palate is medium bodied with bright and fleshy layers of raspberry, redcurrant and darker fruit edges. Supple, classy tannins lead to a soft-textured and elegant finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 94 pts/#25 Top 100 Wines of 2019 Wine Spectator, 92 pts JamesSuckling.com

ABOUT JOHN DUVAL: 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.

