

2018 GIANT STEPS TARRAFORD VINEYARD SYRAH

Review Summary



95 pts/Editor's Choice “This producer may be more lauded for Chardonnay and Pinot, but this Syrah is downright sexy—cool-climate Shiraz at its finest. There’s something comforting yet dynamic about the nose, the way it interlaces juicy, pristine plum and berry fruit with violets, licorice and soft baking and earthy spices. The palate is medium bodied with elegance and focus. Taut, powdery tannins slink around silky textured fruit, and the gently pepper finish is long and fine.”

Christina Pickard
Wine Enthusiast
June 2, 2020

95 pts “Yarra Valley Shiraz tends to be overlooked in favor of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, but wines like the 2018 Tarraford Vineyard Syrah should begin to change the public's impression. There are only 450 cases of this beauty, but it should be on the shortlist for Syrah lovers the world over. Intoxicating aromas of violets, cracked pepper and fresh blueberries lead into a medium to full-bodied palate that feels almost Pinot-silky but with great depth and richness and a complex, lingering finish. Approachable now, it should drink well for at least a decade. Exciting stuff at an incredible price!”

Joe Czerwinski
Robert Parker Wine Advocate
May 14, 2020

95 pts “50/50% Blocks 4 and 5, vinified separately. Block 4 was created from the original planting of Block 5 that included the Red Dog clone. The Block 5 ferment was 100% whole bunches, the bunches removed, destemmed and returned, Block 4 was 100% destemmed and given 7 days post-ferment maceration. It's a wine with intensity and extreme complexity, a long future ahead.

James Halliday
Halliday Wine Companion
August 6, 2020