



wineguy.co.nz

wines worth sharing

Kaesler 'Old Bastard' Barossa Shiraz 2013

Grape Varietal: 100% Shiraz
Growing Region: Nuriootpa, Barossa Valley, Australia
Chief Winemaker: Reid Bosward



When I introduce the name of this wine, several say sorry - what did you say. The Kaesler 'Old Bastard' Shiraz is one of the Barossa Valley's most expressive and engaging wines. The wine's name refers to a small number of 'old bastards' - bush vines planted around 1893. This Shiraz reflects the essence and philosophy of Reid's winemaking along with showcasing individual vineyard sites of international quality.

For several years now Reid and his dedicated viticultural team have been engaged in a program of sustainable viticulture and soil management and improvement with an aim and now the results of achieving a natural equilibrium within these 'century' old bush vines.

After another challenging growing season - the seasons intense sun and testing conditions, the 'Old Bastard' Shiraz vines with their age and resilience were able to produce rich and perfect berries for this wine.

The first 'Old Bastard' was released back in 1998, and each vintage has further developed and added to the reputation of this icon Shiraz, while becoming more prominent over time.

As the low cropping, aged vines were at their peak, the fruit from Shiraz vines planted in 1893, was carefully hand-picked, and transported only a short distance into the winery. After respectful vinification the wine was matured in 35% new and the remainder 1 year old French oak barrels. This without doubt is a full-bodied wine, which has been masterly crafted to express balance along with its power.

In the glass, you will be greeted by a deep garnet colour and purple hue. This wine has a complex intense nose, showcasing blackberries and blackcurrants at the core, with notes of cloves, star anise, earthiness, dried spices and roasted coffee. All of these rich characters follow through on to the palate, which is full and opulent. A rich fruit driven wine, that also delivers layer upon layer and wonderful structure with firm, entwined tannins supporting the generous balanced fruit, flowing through to a very long lingering finish. *Treat yourself - this wine is definitely worth sharing.*

This 2013 Kaesler 'Old Bastard' Barossa Shiraz has 15.5% Alc. Decant for 50-60 minutes, and serve in an appropriate shaped glass at 17-18°C.

Cellaring Potential:

With decanting, approachable this coming season; though would appreciate another 18-24 months and will age well for another 15-20 years.

Food Pairing Suggestions:

Perfect wine pairing well-seasoned, slow cooked prime red meats, game dishes with a rich wine-jus and also enjoyable with aged, hard cheeses - *enjoy.*

A complex and intense Barossa 'old vine' Shiraz with a confident character.

