

CHARLES MELTON

FINE BAROSSA RED WINES



2021 The Kirche (Shiraz & Cabernet)

VINTAGE

A blessing after the vicissitudes of 2019 and 2020. Winter rainfall a bit patchy, but overall approached average by around Christmas a couple of nice rain events in the New Year to freshen up after the odd hot day, but generally a mild harvest period to the end. Good bunch number and bunch weights for ultra-premium wines.

STYLE

Lovely deep colour. The nose has a density of aromatic (if you can smell density!). Again the Cabernet component punches above its weight in the blend with the leafy blackcurrant aromas giving the wine real personality. As you would expect, a degree of weight and gravitas which the Kirche vineyard on Krondorf road consistently produces. A higher percentage (31%) of new oak brings further complexity and the palate has a lovely generosity whilst remaining nimble and balanced. Will reward some good cellaring.

VINIFICATION

100% estate grown Shiraz and Cabernet, principally from the Kirche vineyard in Krondorf Village, gives the 2021 Kirche its distinctive aromatics and flavour. Both varieties from this block perform consistently at the top end of the quality spectrum. The blend is a mix of co-fermented Shiraz and Cabernet and single varietal ferments that are blended post oak maturation. As always, a mix of French oak (81%) and American oak (19%) are used to mature the wine. A touch (31%) of new oak adds a fine cedar element to the bouquet, and the 30 month "sur lie" maturation gives a natural richness to the structure. A cool (18 – 23 c) ferment has helped give an elegance to the fruit perfumes.

TECHNICAL

Shiraz 62%	Alc: 14.5%
Cabernet 38%	T.A: 6.8 g/L
	pH: 3.37

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WINEMAKER