

J O H N
D U V A L
W I N E S

2018 ELIGO SHIRAZ

REVIEWS

99 points, Ken Gargett, Wine Pilot, May 2022

Around 70% Eden Valley fruit and 30% Barossa, sourced from the sub-regions of Ebenezer and Moppa, the various parcels of grapes received discrete fermentation in small stainless steel fermenters, submerged caps, and twice daily pumpovers. A portion of the fruit was left on skins for two weeks for colour and structure. The wine then spent 18 months in fine grained French oak hogsheads (55% new, the remainder older). Inky black in colour, the nose is intense but rather gorgeous. Spices, blueberries, chocolate, leather, some oak but it is integrating superbly, fresh herbs and cocoa powder. Serious concentration here with a supple, seamless palate. Vibrantly fresh, balanced, lovely length with a soft, gentle finish. The silkiest of tannins. The palate also sees notes of beef stock and soy. Immaculate balance here, glorious flavours. There is absolutely no reason this won't improve for 15 to 20 years, but it is already drinking magnificently. I think that this is the best wine I have seen under the Duval label.

97 points, Angus Hughson, WinePilot online, August 2021

Is this the beginning of a long term trend towards Eden Valley for Eligo? Only time will tell. Traditionally the Barossa Valley has been the heart of this wine but in 2018 it only accounts for 30% thanks to the quality of the vintage in the higher Barossan Eden vineyards. It has certainly in this case helped to create a masterpiece. Opaque ruby, it ripples with blackberry, roasted meat, gravy and soy sauce aromas well framed by exceptional quality oak. The palate is a powerhouse of ripe, dark and plush fruits that are forceful, but not overbearing. That fruit sits over a bed of mouth coating tannins and quite vibrant acidity while retaining a silky mouthful. Structure helps to tighten up the palate keeping focus as layers of Bay leaf and spice come into the frame on a long, seamless finish marked by pin point balance. It's a super vintage of Eligo with twenty years plus ahead of it.

97 points, Huon Hooke, The Real Review, 15 July 2021

Very deep, saturated purple/red colour, with a smoky, graphite, charcoal and ironstone bouquet, complex and classic Barossa. The palate adds dark chocolate. The wine is powerful, concentrated, fleshy and dense, with ample tannins that are supple and ripe, contributing to a palate that has impeccable line and length. An outstanding Barossa shiraz, drinking well already but with many years ahead of it.

John and Tim Duval

