

# Shottesbrooke 2005 Shiraz

## McLaren Vale, South Australia



### Background

Shottesbrooke is a small exclusive family vineyard and winery set in the eastern pocket of the beautiful and tranquil McLaren Vale valley, just 45 minutes from Adelaide. The Shottesbrooke vineyards are situated on the upper slopes of the McLaren Vale region. The sandy loam soils of moderate fertility and careful management of yield produce consistently high quality fruit with excellent balance. The generous climate produces big, bold Shiraz with an elegance which is the signature of the Shottesbrooke style. Production in total over all the wines by Shottesbrooke is under 10,000 cases annually. Magnificent views over the gum-studded vineyards, up to the rolling Willunga Hill can be viewed from the award winning cellar door opened in April 1995. A small creek runs through the middle of the vineyard with a rustic stone hut nestled on the bank, just the spot to enjoy a picnic and a bottle of wine while taking in the serenity the property has to offer.

### Winemaking Notes

The Shottesbrooke vineyards were planted in 1994 on deep sandy loam soils of moderate fertility and are grown with minimal irrigation. The rainfall is about 21 inches per year with this falling mainly in the winter months. The estate grown grapes were harvested on April 4<sup>th</sup> 2005 at approximately 14.6 Baume when fruit flavors were fully developed. After destemming and crushing the wine was fermented in static fermenters with pump over cap management. The temperature was maintained between 20 - 25C. After sufficient color and tannin was extracted from fermentation on skins, a portion of the wine was transferred to American oak to complete fermentation. The wine was then racked and transferred to American oak hogsheads for a further twelve months prior to bottling.

### Tasting Notes

The color is a dense deep red showing the purple hues of vintage and black cherries with some pepper and spice. The fruit aromas are complemented by toasty oak. Bold rich and full flavored, the palate is layered with ripe fruit and mocha with toasty overtones from the American oak maturation. The wine has a velvety mouth feel with great length. 2005 was an excellent vintage with stable conditions at harvest. This wine is in the proud tradition of big generous McLaren Vale fruit with Shottesbrooke style and elegance. This wine is drinking beautifully now and will cellar for another 5 to 7 years. Serve with lamb chops or veal parmigiana.

### Specifications

Alcohol: 14.5%  
pH: 3.40  
TA: 7.3  
R/Sugar: 2.3g/l.

### Reviews

**91** Ruby-red. Seductively aromatic redcurrant, raspberry and blueberry aromas accented by graphite, exotic vanilla and clove. The oak is suavely woven into the fresh dark berry flavors and helps to sweeten rather than overwhelm the palate. Juicy dark berry and cherry fruit flavors carry through the long, energetic finish. Impressively pure, expressive and utterly seductive. **Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - July 2007**