SHAW + SMITH

Shaw + Smith,

`Balhannah Vineyard` Adelaide Hills Shiraz 2023

Adelaide Hills, South Australia, Australia



Grape Varieties	**100% Shiraz**
Winemaker	**Martin Shaw & Adam Wadewitz**
Closure	**Screwcap**
ABV	**13.5%**
Acidity	**4.5g/L**
Wine pH	**3.89**
Notes	**Vegetarian, Vegan**

PRODUCER

The dynamic partnership of cousins Martin Shaw and Michael Hill Smith MW began in 1989 when the duo decided to realise their dream of making wine together. A talent for wine runs in this family, with Martin honing his craft at the University of Bordeaux, and Michael being the first Australian to pass the Master of Wine exams in 1988. Since founding Shaw + Smith, their goal has been to make exciting, refined wines, exclusively from the Adelaide Hills, that rank among Australia's best. Viticulturist Murray Leake and Chief winemaker Adam Wadewitz, one of Australia's brightest winemaking talents, have helped take Shaw + Smith to new heights. "30 years ago, we made the wines in the winery; today, we make them in the vineyard," says Adam.

VINEYARDS

The Balhannah vineyard was planted in 2005 with low-yielding Shiraz clones (Savii17, 470 and 2626) at a density of approximately 5,500 vines per hectare. Sitting at an elevation of 380 metres, the plot has a north-facing aspect, and soils comprise of loam over clay, ironstone, quartzite and shale.

VINTAGE

The third La Nina influenced season in a row, 2023 was late, cool, and wet. The harvest was the latest that Shaw + Smith had experienced to date, however the resulting wines have excellent acidity and freshness from the cooler season.

VINIFICATION

The grapes were hand picked, hand sorted, and fermented as whole berries and whole bunches in open fermenters, with gentle plunging and minimal working. The wine was aged in new (15%) and used 500-600 litre French oak puncheons for 14 months. Unfiltered and unfined before bottling, the wine then underwent another 14 months of bottle ageing.

TASTING NOTES

This Shiraz is fresh and aromatic with lifted florals, red fruits and subtle spice. Notes of graphite bring definition and a thread of black olive tapenade adds a savoury edge. The palate is finely structured with subtle tannins making the wine immediately approachable. A vintage that clearly expresses the Balhannah vineyard character.