



# BELLY-UP

2008  
BAROSSA VALLEY  
SHIRAZ

2008 Belly Up is a single vineyard Shiraz from the Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Since 2006 seventh generation Barossans Tania, Stephen and Paul Schrapel have produced a Shiraz from the same 1 hectare vineyard sited along the Tanunda Creek, close to the Barossa Ranges. We aim to make a wine that is fruit driven, elegant, and expresses the character of the vineyard.

The 2008 vintage is exceptional. Only 1,000 bottles were made.

#### [Viticulture]

The fruit for this shiraz is sourced from 60 year old vines planted in alluvial clays overlaying a base of limestone - good for storing the Barossa winter rains.

The vines are trellised on a two wire "over-and-under" system including a separate wire to manage the leaf canopy during ripening. At fruit set the leaf canopy wire is lifted to achieve good sun exposure and berry maturation.

#### [Vintage notes]

The 2007/8 season was the most difficult in the 3 years of Belly Up production.

Although the climate leading up to vintage was mild, ongoing drought conditions in the Barossa created a few concerns. The timing of when to pick was critical. An unprecedented heat-wave gripped the region the second week of March but fortunately the fruit was already fairly well ripened. Picking started before it was sun damaged.

As a result, the production was low but excellent quality with small berry sizes. This has produced a wine that is deep in colour and rich in fruit flavours.

#### [Winemaking]

The fruit was crushed and put into three open fermenters and every 6 hours during fermentation the cap was hand plunged. After seven days on skins the resulting ferment must was pressed in a basket press and racked into hogsheads.

Aged 11 months in new French and American oak. Bottled March, 2009.

Johanne Christiane Wine Company Pty Ltd  
Bethany Road, Tanunda SA 5352  
[www.belly-up.com.au](http://www.belly-up.com.au)