



2018 Glaetzer The Eye of Ra **PRESS REVIEWS**

Robert Parker Wine Advocate

2018 The Eye of Ra **98 Points**

The 2018 The Eye of Ra Shiraz is wildly aromatic: blood plum, pastrami, cracked peppercorns, clove bud, mountain herbs (alpine mint), boysenberry, blackberry (actually, every black berry you can name), dark chocolate, squid ink, blueberry, resin and char. In the mouth, the wine is velvety and concentrated, with a surprising amount of detail embedded and embossed into the folds of tannin that shape the wine. This is very big, make no mistake, but also balanced between its sweet and savory sides. A galaxy of complexity exists in this glass. It shows the 2018 vintage off to its best effect: ripe, dense, concentrated, fresh and beguiling. Super good. The drinking window is conservative, however, as I prefer a modicum of primary fruit. It's important to note that it will age gracefully beyond that point, so it is up to you... The fruit for this cuvée is from Ebenezer, largely from Adrian Hoffman. Diverse soil types in the vineyard allow for diversity in picking and fruit flavors; this here is from the sandy/free-draining sections of the Ebenezer vineyard—from four blocks in the vineyard. It was handpicked, and picked based on flavor, then crushed, destemmed and cold fermented, barrel selection. It matured in 300-liter hogsheads for 14-16 months, in a combination of French oak coopers (100% new). Packaged in a black metal box, under natural cork and wax, this is a superstar.

Erin Larkin, April 2023 Week 1, The Wine Advocate, USA www.robertparker.com

Matthew Jukes

2018 The Eye of Ra **19.5/20**

I was privileged to be the first person in the UK to taste the 2016 vintage of The Eye of Rã and a preview of the 2018 vintage of Ben Glaetzer's extraordinary creation. I imagine this super-luxe cuvée will make it to the UK following the inaugural, stellar 2016, and when it does, I can assure you this is an even more expressive wine. I tasted 2018 The Eye of Rã the same week I tasted the 2020 Domaine de la Romanée-Conti releases, Spottswoode's as yet unreleased 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon, and on the same day that I tasted 2020 Ornellaia – all wines with immense scores in my notes and, of course, all world-class creations. But more impressive, certainly to me, was the reaction from two South Australian members of the wine trade fraternity, neither of whom has any affiliation with Mr Glaetzer, who were both struck dumb by this wine. They happened to be around on the day I opened this bottle, so I brought it along to a couple of meetings for them to taste. One was open-mouthed, performing goldfish impressions, while the other was almost moved to tears as it brought back memories that she described as the 'essence of the Barossa'! When a wine has this degree of deliciousness, extraordinary build quality, and perhaps most importantly, a massive emotional hook, it does its job perfectly. Made from the finest parcel of fruit in Ben's Ebenezer vineyard, this is a wine that does not waver from its mission to graffiti Ben's name on your palate with indelible Shiraz ink. The volume of fruit is staggering, but its delivery is incredibly measured and even, and this is the trick. Rã is not a monster wine but a monstrosously long wine. It is perfectly polished and amazingly spicy, with never-ending layers of fruit and immense class. It is also drinking well, which is a surprise, but the 2018 vintage is generous with seamless fruit and unique allure. I feel it will maintain its welcoming and rewarding attitude for two decades, so you are in no hurry to pop a cork! While this icon wine has an iconic flavour, I must urge you to seek it out. Imagine all of Ben's experience and skill in just one bottle – Rã is it. 19.5+/20 (Drink now – 2040)

Matthew Jukes, 15th February 2023, United Kingdom www.matthewjukes.com

Glaetzer

BAROSSA VALLEY



2018 Glaetzer

The Eye of Ra

PRESS REVIEWS

Vinous

2018 The Eye of Ra **96 Points**

The classic 2018 vintage is on show here in this 2018 Shiraz Eye of Ra, sourced from four Ebenezer vineyards before maturing for 16 months in new French oak. It is a classy wine from the get go. Roast meats, mulberry, and aged spices emerge, all composed and beautifully weighted, with touches of wood smoke completing the package. Voluptuous, creamy and superbly executed, it is a voluptuous rendition of Barossa with layer after layer of flavor building over a solid base of tannins.

Angus Hughson, March 2023, Vinous www.vinous.com