

# EPICUREAN WINES



## Piping Shrike Shiraz 2006

Barossa Valley



### Winery Background

This Shiraz is produced at Charles Cimicky. Charles Cimicky produces rich, voluptuous, generous wines with superb balance. Apart from minor drip irrigation in January and February, the vines are dry grown, cover-cropped and organically fertilized. Now in his late forties Charles Cimicky is one of the most quality-driven, meticulous winemakers in South Australia. Piping Shrike Shiraz is named after for the Australian Magpie whose territorial diligence ensures the protection of the Barossa Shiraz grapes from thieving Blackbirds.

### Winemaking

Charles Cimicky is fastidious. The winery is completely air-conditioned and individually temperature-controlled tanks are employed in the making of all Cimicky wines. Updated technology includes the use of a membrane press and rotary fermenters. The Cimickys also have their own bottling and packaging line which is a rarity in a winery of this size.

### Viticulture

85% of the shiraz for this wine came from Lyndock & Gomersal in the southern part of the Barossa valley where the Charles Cimicky winery and vineyards are located. The remaining 15% for the 2006 was sourced from McLaren Vale.

### Analytical

*Grapes:* 100% Shiraz

*Aging:* 18 months in seasoned American oak

*Vintage:* Winter and spring rainfall was well above average in the Barossa Valley resulting in a low water stress season for the region. The 2005/2006 growing season had a cool start but brief rains in late-February, followed by another period of warm weather, led to rapid ripening and a quick onset for harvest. Conditions in the Barossa favored good color and tannin development, as well as acid and pH levels.

*Alc/Vol:* 15%

### Press

89 Pts. "... one of the better values in full-flavored Shiraz... cinnamon, violets, and blueberry emerge... a full-bodied, mouth-filling, lengthy wine with tons of fruit and flavor..."

*The Wine Advocate 10-31-07*

### Notes

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