



Stephen Tanzer's

Winophilia



Winophilia Picks

Woop Woop 2012 Shiraz

90 Pts

Why Should You Care?

Winemaker Ben Riggs is the man behind literally hundreds of excellent Australian wines made over the last couple of decades. Woop Woop, which is Aussie slang for the middle of nowhere, is a project that Riggs co-owns with his American importer Ben Hammerschlag, and the wines consistently offer superb bang for the buck, especially the shiraz . Riggs' winemaking style showcases the opulent fruit for which South Australia is known but with a modicum of restraint, and that holds true even for Woop Woop, which would be considered his entry-level line-up.

What Does It Taste Like?

Under-\$20 bottles of Aussie shiraz usually offer straightforward, easygoing fruit and little else, but the 2012 Woop Woop Shiraz South Eastern Australia overdelivers big-time. Made from one of the best Australian vintages in recent memory, it displays intense dark berry character, with floral and spice flourishes that remind me of much more expensive wines. Unlike most inexpensive Aussie shiraz bottlings, this wine has the aromatic interest and balance that will make it a winner with all kinds of grilled foods this summer. My score: 90 points.

