



SYRAHMI

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Syrahmi 2011 Finesse Shiraz

Winemaker: Adam Foster **Grape(s):** Shiraz

GI: Heathcote

Site(s): Greenstone Vineyard in the Mt Camel Ranges

Vintage notes: Rainy, wet and windy sums up 2011; it's the wettest and coolest vintage Foster has ever worked, with exception of 2002 in the Northern Rhône Valley. Picking began mid April as opposed to late February/early March. The vineyard is where this wine was made; canopy management was essential by removing the south side leaves, allowing grapes to ripen under the extreme weather conditions. Each bunch on the vine was cut and assessed and anything that was not of the highest quality was cut to the ground, resulting in yields 26% less than the previous Syrahmi release.

Vineyard notes: The vineyard is densely planted with 4500 vines per hectare; ancient pre-Cambrian soil 550 million years old is mixed with copper infused Greenstone rocks. It is also the only one of two vineyards in Heathcote planted north to south. Less than 1 kg per vine in yields.

Winemaking: All fruit was hand-picked with 50% whole bunch inclusion. Wild yeast primary in an open concrete fermenter. No pumping, hand plunged only, 22-32 days on skins before pressing. Aged in used French oak for 10 months, 25% new. Wine is left on lees without racking then bottled unfinned and unfiltered with minimal SO₂.

Closure: Stelvin **ABV:** 13.4%

Winery tasting notes: An intensely fresh and focused wine. Red with bright purple hue, a riot of perfume and spice with ripe wild raspberries, black peppercorns, gun smoke, violets and spiced aromatics with savory smoked meat complexity all wrapped around a modicum of toasty oak. Very finely textured, medium bodied palate with super long length, clean refreshing acidity finishing with fine velvet like savory tannins.

Label: Each year Adam sources from a different single vineyard in the Heathcote region and the resulting wine has a different name to reflect the vintage. This release is named Finesse, reflecting the cool climate and elegant lines of the vintage.

Production size: 450 dozen