

# Waterford Kevin Arnold

## Shiraz

### 2018



<b>Cultivars:</b>	96% Shiraz, 4% Mourvèdre
<b>Vineyard:</b>	Stellenbosch
<b>Quantity:</b>	7 300 cases
<b>Aging:</b>	Old French oaks barrels 225L, 300L & 500L for 22 months
<b>Wine Analysis:</b>	<b>Alc</b> 13.9%
	<b>TA</b> 4.9 g/L
	<b>RS</b> 1.5 g/L
	<b>pH</b> 3.68

#### TASTING NOTE

The wine shows aromatics of delicate violets, dark plum fruits and licorice notes which has layered subtle notes of earthiness and leather spice, brought in by the Mourvedre component. The palate follows the aromatics of the nose with similar violet and earthy spice notes. The wine shows generosity for a vintage which is known for more elegant and finely textured wines. The tannins presented are soft and granular with a fruit-forward finish due to the use of strictly older barrels for ageing.

#### VINEYARD

Grapes are sourced from vineyards which are grown in the Stellenbosch region. However, from the 2007 vintage, almost all the fruit is sourced from Waterford Estate. The average age of the vineyards is 20 years old, which makes them well-established vineyards with higher quality fruit.

#### VINTAGE REVIEW

With the winter having lower levels of rainfall we knew that the vineyard was going to be stressed during the springtime but what followed was near-perfect growing conditions for flowering and berry set. Harvest time was characterised by moderate temperatures and a distinct lack of heat waves which was ideal for berry ripening. The vineyards remained very healthy and produced the perfect bunches, smaller berries than what we usually expect but this gives us great concentration. Apart from being a warm vintage the wines show good freshness and elegance.

#### PAIRING SUGGESTIONS

Pairs well with lean red meats, such as venison, as well as a variety of earthy components.

#### WINE FACTS

No new wood is used in the making of this wine. Gentle vinification methods such as whole berry fermentation and soft extraction methods by means of only pump overs brings out the purity in this wine.

#### RATINGS

Tim Atkin SA Special Report 2022 - 93 points; Platter's Wine Guide 2023 - 4.5 Stars

