

BEST'S GREAT WESTERN BLANC DE NOIRS SPARKLING SHIRAZ



100% Shiraz. Shining gold and straw hues. Vibrant aromas of apricot, white nectarine, pear, green apple, vanilla and cream. Soft, plump and juicy. Flavors of peach, sherbet and citrus blossom, balanced by a refreshing, zesty acidity and a touch of brioche roundness. The finish is crisp, clean and long with a note of candy floss and zesty lemon pith. This sparkling wine pairs exceptionally well with fresh oysters, smoked salmon, crisp fried chicken and light appetizer cheese boards.

Sourced from the estate's Sugarloaf Creek Vineyard, located within the Great Western sub-region of Grampians in Western Victoria, Australia. Selected blocks are positioned at the vineyard's higher elevations and undergo manual leaf plucking to maximize sun exposure on the grapes. The soils are regional red clay loam layered over weathered granite and quartz gravels. The vines are 13 years old. The grapes were carefully hand-harvested and transferred immediately to the press. Meticulous, gentle whole-bunch pressing and vinification minimized any red skin color extraction. The wine completed primary fermentation and its sparkling curation in tank.

Henry Best, for whom Best's Great Western is named, planted his first vines in the region as far back as 1866. A few decades later, the Scotsman William Thomson bought property and planted vines at Rhymney to the south, adding the original Best's vineyards to his holdings in 1920 upon Henry Best's death. The Thomson family continue to own and operate Best's Great Western today, making it one of the few historic Australian wineries to remain non-corporatized. Today, the winery is actively run by 5th generation Ben Thomson, who serves as Managing Director and Vineyard Manager. His brother Hamish handles regional sales, and the 6th generation of the family is already involved in daily operations. Best's original plantings included 48,000 vines and many exist today, pre-phylloxera and on their original rootstock.

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Tasting Note:

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100% Shiraz. Aromas of apricot, nectarine, pear, green apple, vanilla & cream; soft, plump & juicy; flavors of peach, sherbet & citrus blossom; zesty acidity & brioche roundness; crisp, clean & long finish with candy floss & lemon pith.

Shelf Talker:

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