

TAIT

Family Winery



The Ball Buster 2022

Barossa Valley, Australia

Technical Notes

The grapes that make up the Ball Buster are sourced from various vineyard located throughout the Barossa Valley. The vineyards are chosen such that they express the area that they are grown. The TAIT philosophy is that the grapes and subsequent wine must have intensity of flavor and richness. The age of the vineyards that make up the Ball Buster range from 7-50 years old. The grapes are de-stemmed and tipped into large open fermenters, pH is adjusted and fermentation takes place over 7-10 days at a temperature of approximately 74 degrees F. Plunging and pumping over takes place 3 times a day during this period. The wine is then gently pressed using traditional basket presses. Juice is drained from there to barrel, where it spends 18 months in a combination of used French and American oak. The oak that is used, is there to impart some subtle flavors but more importantly, to create softness in the wine. Blending of the different components wine takes place to ensure a wine which is dark in color, rich and juicy on the palate and full bodied, but with good balance and length. Ball Buster is always bottled unfinned & unfiltered.

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About this Wine

The first production of the Ball Buster in 2002 was 600 cases. It entered the market at a time when Aussie wines were on fire, but high scoring ones were expensive. Bruno Tait committed himself to making an awesome Shiraz based Barossa red, and having it retail for under \$20. This vintage marks Tait's 16th year of this iconic blend, named as a "tongue-in-cheek" tribute from Bruno to his wife, Michelle. This is the only wine in the world to ever receive 10 or more consecutive 90 point reviews or higher, in The Wine Advocate, at the \$20 mark. In fact, the 2016 vintage marked 15 straight vintages since its inception, of 90 point or higher reviews – a feat that is unlikely to ever be repeated by any other wine. Not much has changed over the years. It is still made with high quality fruit and hand crafted winemaking. Even as production volumes grew, Bruno has been committed to maintaining quality and avoiding shortcuts and price gouging. For those consumers that enjoy the opulence of wines like The Prisoner, but would like some elegance as well – this one's for you.

Wine Analysis

Alcohol: 14.9%

Acidity: 6.22 g/l

pH: 3.46

Residual Sugar: 0.8g/l

- ✓ **VEGAN FRIENDLY**
- ✓ **SUSTAINABLE**
- ✗ **ORGANIC**
- ✗ **BIODYNAMIC**

Vintage Information

The 2022 Barossa vintage was characterized by good winter rains in the winter of 2021 followed by a cooler ripening season than usual during the summer of 2022, with below-average temperatures and extended sunshine, leading to a harvest that was two weeks later than average. The 2022 vintage produced exceptional quality with wines exhibiting elegant structure, depth, and length.

Scores / Reviews

"Rich dark berries are accented by walnuts, peppercorns and licorice. Full-bodied and structured yet velvety in texture, combining meaty depth with polished tannins. Well-integrated and persistent in the finish. A blend of 87% shiraz, 7% cabernet sauvignon and 6% merlot. "

- James Suckling
92 Points

91pts Vinous

