



2012 LONGHOP SHIRAZ REVIEWS

PHILIP WHITE DRINKSTER AUG 2013

92 POINTS

Longhop Mount Lofty Ranges Shiraz 2012 is along the same lines, (as the Longhop Cabernet Sauvignon) made mainly from low-yielding pre-phylloxera clones on their own roots, fermented as whole berries in open vats, basket-pressed and left to slumber in old barrels. So, well, let's face it: you get the full Basket Press treatment (Rockford's now around \$150) for \$17. This one's more conventionally fruity than the Cabernet, with plumcake, dried figs and pecan simmering richly below a nose-prickling acidity that takes me to the High Barossa on a dusty summer day. Panforte. Like the Cabernet, I've had it open for five days, and I can't find a hole in it – my score has inched upwards every day. It's great wine for big mushrooms and juicy beefsteak with some beetroot on the side. Elegant and balanced with no overt jelly or jam, it's straight down the line dead-honest old-fashioned Shiraz with no sophistry at all. Don't ask how they do it at this price; ask Rockford how they justify theirs.

GARY WALSH THE WINE FRONT AUG 2013

92 POINTS

To paraphrase an old Mattinson faithful, it's wines like these that make my life as a reviewer so much easier.

Cherry liqueur or Framboise – either really, it has that seductive rich quality along with coal, clove spice and a subtle coconut fragrance. Medium to full bodied, a flood of rich fruit, but tempered by earthy savoury stuff and a layer of dark exotic spice.

Tannin spreads out and shapes the wine masterfully for a wine at this price. Acidity neat and unforced. Length too. This is a rugged, fresh and honest wine – not least a bloody tasty one.

JEREMY PRINGLE WINE WILL EAT ITSELF AUG 2013

91 POINTS

You'd be hard pressed to find many other Shirazes that offer this kind of value for money. Buoyant blackberries and redcurrants, pepper, licorice, gum leaf and baked earth. The back-palate loads up on bitter dark chocolate and clove spiced oak is well pitched. Fleshy and supple yet bright with a lovely set of ripe tannins. We're in serious bargain territory here.

RALPH KYTE-POWELL EPICURE MELBOURNE AGE OCT 2013

90 POINTS (FANTASTIC VALUE)

A friendly shiraz from South Australia's Mount Lofty Ranges, the 2012 is right on song - raspberry aromas, sweet spice, toasted coconut-like oak, satisfying mouthfeel, good length and fine tannins.

