



95 pts



## BIG JIM

### 2021 SHIRAZ

The Wark Family are big on tradition ...and for as long as anyone can remember, the rooster at their farm at Stonewell in the Barossa has taken the name of the breeder. Current rooster in residence and king of the coop goes by the moniker Jim... 'Big Jim'...named after James Wark. Big Jim is noble, handsome, vigorous and virile. A solid all-round unit ...and the perfect ambassador for the best Shiraz grown in the Wark Family's vineyard.

We started taking fruit from the Wark Family's vineyard in 2012, releasing the first Wark Family Shiraz in 2013. That wine was an instant hit and each vintage release since has been a sell out. At the end of the 2013 vintage, James Wark and his vineyard guy Steve Schiller pointed out one section of the vineyard they reckoned to be fairly special, and the decision was made to treat it a little bit differently to the rest of the block to produce the very best Shiraz possible. With the aim of reducing yields to concentrate flavour, Steve mulched the vines and backed off on the irrigation and other inputs. The quality of the fruit harvested from this section in 2014 blew us away ...and Big Jim was born!

Here's to Big Jim...the rooster and the red!

### VINTAGE

A triumphant return to 'normality' emerged in the wake of two scorching, parched, and low-yield vintages. The 2021 growing season commenced with moderate winter rains, complemented by refreshing spring showers. As late spring and early summer temperatures soared, vine growth surged, before easing for a dry and temperate transition into autumn. These exceptional vintage circumstances, fostering steady ripening and the development of luscious, full-bodied flavours, coincided with Kym's remarkable 20th year at the helm of Teusner Wines.

### TASTING

Seasons on and the Big Jim continues to impress, packed with rich berry flavours and well balanced, classy oak.

This wine is black in the glass and the rich Shiraz flavours are super concentrated courtesy of the low yields in the vineyard. 18 months ageing in a mix of 50% new French hogsheads and 50% seasoned oak has lifted the spice notes to a new level and given the wine fine structure.

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*Sourced from the famous Stonewell vineyard. This is very refined, contradicting the connotations of the name. Blue fruit inflections, pungent mineral undertones, black pepper, clove, anise and lilac. The tannins here are lithe, grape-derived and impressively refined, like a tautly drawn corset that compresses and tones the long finish. This is very good. Drinkable now, but best from 2026.*

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Ned Goodwin - James Suckling Wine Ratings.

<b>VARIETY</b>	100% Shiraz
<b>SUB-REGIONS</b>	Stonewell
<b>HARVEST</b>	26th February
<b>MATURATION</b>	18 months ageing in a mix of 50% new French hogsheads and 50% seasoned oak
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	pH 3.50 TA 6.5 g/L 14.8% ALC/VOL
<b>CELLAR</b>	15+ years