

## Gardners Ground Shiraz 2008

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APR  
2010

I don't know much about this producer other than what I'm reading on the bottle (and website): based in Canowindra, organic viticulture, reasonably priced. Again, I'm struck by the number of producers in this region who are overtly pursuing organics.

First impressions are of overripeness, but this freshens quickly to show an aroma of savoury black fruits, gentle spice, a hint of volatility and cuddly oak. I don't find it especially complex but it's friendly and home-made in a positive sense. My key criticism of the aroma profile is that it is a bit blunt, lacking the finesse I'd ideally like to see. However, the spice is lovely and there's no shortage of expressiveness.

The palate adds some lively acidity into the mix, and this helps the wine to express more sprightly fruit. Quite a flavoursome entry, with prickly acid and perhaps a hint of minerality, leading to a mid palate that is focused on savoury berry fruits. It's refreshing to find a wine at this price point that is determinedly savoury, with just a hint of fleshiness. Any sweetness seems to come more from nougat oak, which becomes more prominent as the wine lifts through its after palate to an edgy finish.

### Gardners Ground

**Price:** \$A19.95

**Closure:** Stelvin

**Source:** Sample