



The Tasting:

The Fifty Best held a “blind” tasting of recently released syrah-shiraz wines with 12 members of our wine judging panel. Strict tasting rules were applied. The order of service was established beforehand by lottery. Each of the wines were poured into fresh glasses from new sealed bottles. Only ice water and crusty white peasant bread were available to cleanse the palate.

The judges wrote down their impressions of each wine on score sheets. The scoring was done on a 5-point system, with 5 as the highest. Double-Gold, Gold and Silver medals are awarded according to a set range of final point scores received from the judges. There were no bronze medals awarded for this tasting.

The tasting notes that follow are summaries of the judges’ opinions, with all replicated commentary eliminated. The appellations and countries are identified for each brand. Prices indicated do not include tax.

https://www.thefiftybest.com/wine/best_syrah_shiraz/



GOLD MEDAL WINNER

2016 LONGBOARD VINEYARDS
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY SYRAH
(HEALDSBURG, CALIFORNIA) \$38

THIS WINE WAS MADE FROM 99% SYRAH WITH THE ADDITION OF VERY SMALL AMOUNTS OF GRENACHE, CARIGNAN, MALBEC AND PETITE SIRAH. FOLLOWING FERMENTATION, THE WINE WAS AGED IN A COMBINATION OF BORDEAUX AND BURGUNDY FRENCH OAK AND BOTTLED UNFINED AND UNFILTERED.

AROMA: LUXARDO CHERRY, CONCENTRATED PLUM, BLACKBERRY, BLUEBERRY, DRIED BLACKBERRY, CURRANT, TOBACCO LEAF, WHITE PEPPER, MOCHA, ESPRESSO, LEATHER, WET PAVEMENT, STONE.

PALATE: CHERRY, SWEET SOUR CHERRY, PLUMS, BLUEBERRY, CURRANT, SWEET TARTS, VANILLA, VIOLET, DRY HERBS, MINT, CLOVE, PEPPER, LEATHER, TOBACCO, SMOKE.

FINISH: BLACKBERRY, CASSIS, CORNUCOPIA, APPLE, DRIED FRUIT, SOFT VANILLA, TANNIC, EARTHY, SMOKY, RICH.

