



100 BEST AUSTRALIAN WINES 2015/16

2012 Torbreck, RunRig, Barossa Valley, SA || 15.5% || £175

RunRig is always an impressive wine. It is powerful, Churchillian and indulgent. Every so often though a vintage comes along which takes me back to the first ever wine which I bought from this world famous estate - 1996 RunRig. This was a wine so courageous and unflinching it took people's breath clean away. 2012 is, once again, just such a wine. I was amazed at the sublime aromatics, coupled with density of flavour and fearless spice. This is an expensive wine, but it makes such an impression it is unlikely you will ever forget it - just like I have never forgotten the 1996.

There is another star in the 2012 releases from Torbreck and it is **2012 Torbreck, The Factor Shiraz (£99)**. I am, more often than not, a huge fan of this wine because of its particular recipe - two year old oak swathed around Gomersal, Kalimna, Rowland Flat, Marananga and Ebenezer fruit. This magician's cape of carpentry doesn't interfere with the Chinese puzzle box of flavours which fit together perfectly on the palate. Every element knows its place and acts with equal and opposite force throughout the experience. It is harmony in true vinous form - something that RunRig will take a while to discover. I anticipate the RunRig eureka moment to happen sometime in 2029.