



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Tilly's Vineyard 2014

Grape Variety

A blend of 56% semillon, 20% sauvignon blanc, 18% riesling and 6% chardonnay grown in Henschke's Eden Valley vineyard (69%) and Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills (31%).

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 17 February-10 April | *Alcohol:* 13% | *pH:* 3.08 | *Acidity:* 7.22g/L

Maturation

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage to preserve the wine's fragrant characteristics.

Background

This attractive, fragrant blend is named as a tribute to great-aunt Ottilie Mathilde 'Tilly' Henschke, one of the many remarkable women of the era where daily life was a far cry from the ease of today.

Vintage Description

The 2014 vintage began with the winery coming alive to the fragrant aromas of fermentation. But what a year we had! The moon cycles put Easter quite late in the season, so the expectation of a late harvest prevailed...until South Australia experienced its record number of heat days over 40C in January, culminating in the worst bushfire in Eden Valley in living memory. This taste of hell ended in the wettest February in 44 years - all in 48 hours, when we received between 115 and 150mm of rain. Fortunately, Eden Valley and the Adelaide Hills were still in veraison, which allowed the quenching rain to rebalance the fruit, particularly in the older dry-grown vineyards. The yields appeared depressingly minuscule, due to a severe black frost in spring and cold windy weather during flowering in early December. Early picks of semillon and shiraz after the heat wave were in response to vine stress. The change to mild autumnal weather in late February after the rains allowed for a focus on other early vintage varieties, riesling in Eden Valley and pinot noir at Lenswood. Mild weather with cold dewy mornings and windy days prevailed. Disease pressure increased as March became colder and wetter, which seemed to change to a winter pattern after the solstice. It was indeed a late vintage and also resulted in one of our longest vintages. The picking of Eden Valley cabernet and Lenswood merlot brought the season to a close at the beginning of May, where skilled vineyard teams played a critical role by hand selecting and picking the best quality fruit during the onset of rain and cold wintery weather. In summary, a challenging season with good quality but very low yields.

Wine Description

Brilliant pale straw with lime green hues. Delicate aromas of white flowers, gooseberries, passionfruit and zesty citrus with supporting nuances of nectarine and guava. The palate is deliciously fruited and complemented by vibrant acidity, minerality and texture, with balance and focus for a crisp, fresh, long finish.

Reviewed October 2015



Cellaring Potential

Exceptional vintage,
5+ years (from vintage).

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