



# HENSCHKE

*Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards*



## Tappa Pass Shiraz 2010

### Grape Variety

100% old-vine shiraz grown in the Barossa (Eden Valley and Barossa Valley).

### Technical Details

Harvest Date: 3-28 March | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.44 | Acidity: 6.62g/L

### Maturation

Matured in 45% new and 55% seasoned French hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

### Background

The Barossa has a core of traditional growers of Lutheran descent dating back five generations, staunchly continuing the traditions of their forebears. Occasionally, one or two parcels of fruit of overwhelming quality come over the weighbridge; this is one such example. The 50-year-old, low-yielding vines are growing in low-fertility Neoproterozoic soils more than 542 million years old, ranging from terra rossa to red-brown earths. The fully ripe black shiraz grapes were sourced from three grower vineyards in Tappa Pass, Light Pass and Eden Valley and were vinified in traditional open-top fermenters.

### Vintage Description

The 2010 growing season was preceded by above average winter rainfall. Spring was mild with little frost damage and gave us an even budburst. The weather remained cold and wet through spring, which held back growth until a two-week high 30s heat wave in November affected flowering and fruit set. Spring rains continued into early summer right through until mid-December, making it the wettest year since 2005. The vines responded to the heat and grew vigorously until early January, developing lush canopies, but bunch development suffered as a result.

A roller-coaster ride of heat spikes and cool changes continued through a warm summer with occasional thunderstorms. The vines went through veraison a week earlier than 2009. Lower yields coupled with the mild ripening period resulted in concentrated fruit. Vintage began a week earlier than 2009 and was in full swing by mid-February. The white vintage was all but finished a month later while the red harvest continued with deeply coloured, well-balanced grapes being picked during mild, dry conditions until the end of April.

### Wine Description

Very deep crimson with violet hues. Intense, fragrant aromas of blue and black berry fruits, Satsuma plums and ripe mulberries interwoven with creamy cedar, mocha and roast meat nuances and subtle hints of Thai spices and flint. The palate is rich, round and lush with layers of concentrated dark plums and black fruits; an incredible intensity of flavours and beautifully balanced silky tannins for a long, fine, assertive finish.

### Cellaring Potential

Exceptional vintage,  
25+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed April 2013