



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2020 JULIUS RIESLING

GRAPE VARIETY

100% riesling grown in Eden Valley.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 24 February – 4 March | Alcohol: 12.0% | pH: 3.04 | Acidity: 6.91g/L

MATURATION

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage to preserve the delicate aromatic fruit characters.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale straw with lime-green hues. Incredibly fragrant aromas of finger lime, grapefruit pith, lime juice, citrus zest, bergamot oil and white florals with undertones of green peppercorn and white currant. The palate is pure and bright with flavours of citrus, stone fruit and guava, beautifully balanced by steely minerality and a clean sweep of fresh acidity providing power, concentration and a long, precise finish.

BACKGROUND

Cyril Henschke developed the Henschke reputation for premium riesling wines as early as the 1950s from the vineyard areas of Eden Valley, Keyneton and Springton in the Eden Valley wine region. This region provides ideal ripening conditions for the riesling grape and has a unique track record of exceptional ageing potential for the variety. The Eden Valley riesling vineyard is planted on sandy loam over gravel and bedrock with patches of clay. This wine is named as a tribute to ancestor Julius Henschke, a famous craftsman and highly acclaimed artist and sculptor. Julius was recognised for his ornate headstones and angel sculptures at Gnadenberg Cemetery, as well as his most famous work, the inspiring War Memorial on North Terrace in Adelaide.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2020 vintage will be remembered for excellent quality wines from the Eden Valley, albeit a meagre production due to reduced yields caused by a number of poor conditions at flowering and the extremely dry winter, spring and summer of 2019/20. The 2019 winter and spring resulted in the driest start to the growing season ever, in line with 1939 and 1961. November was a challenging month with frosty, wet and windy conditions during flowering. Significant heatwaves from mid-December to the end of January reduced shoot growth and berry size, however at the end of the month around 40mm of rain fell, alleviating the stress just before veraison, followed by a cool ripening period in February with just three days over 30°C. Vintage was early, beginning in late February and finishing by early April. The grapes ripened in near-perfect conditions, resulting in optimal and excellent wine quality (colour, aromatics, flavours and tannin maturity). Bunches were in loose, open and pristine clusters, while the yield remained very low, at about 10% of average. The 2020 whites are finely structured, balanced and fragrant.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage,
25+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED October 2019