



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Cyril Henschke 1999 (Museum Release)

Grape Variety

70% cabernet sauvignon, 15% cabernet franc and 15% merlot grown on the Henschke Eden Valley vineyard.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 28-30 April | *Alcohol:* 14.3% | *pH:* 3.37 | *Acidity:* 6.2g/L

Maturation

Matured in new and seasoned French hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling. Bottle aged at Henschke Cellars in Keyneton for museum release.

Background

This wine carries the name of Stephen's father, Cyril Henschke (1924-1979), as a tribute to one of Australia's outstanding winemaking pioneers, renowned for old-vine single-vineyard and quality varietal table wines. Cyril planted cabernet sauvignon at Henschke's Eden Valley vineyard in the 1960s.

Vintage Description

The latter part of spring led into one of the hottest summers on record, with virtually no rain. The drought conditions resulted in smaller berry size, producing spicy, dark intense reds. Tropical cyclones Elaine and Vance brought unseasonal rains in mid-March, causing widespread botrytis problems requiring careful handpicking. 1999 proved to be another challenging vintage for Eden Valley although the final quality results made it worthwhile.

Wine Description

Deep red with brick red hues. Alluring aromas of briary dark forest berries and cassis with savoury nuances of anise, beef stock and dried herbs. Sweet, rich dark fruit, blackcurrants and aniseed flavours dance across the palate, between layers of fine-grained mature tannins, for a concentrated and beautifully long finish.

Cellaring Potential

Great vintage, 15+ years (from vintage). Ideal to drink now.

Reviewed May 2014

