



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Hill of Grace 1991

Grape Variety

100% shiraz grapes from pre-phylloxera material brought from Europe by the early settlers in the mid-1800s and grown on the Hill of Grace vineyard in the Eden Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 30-31 March | Alcohol: 13.5% | pH: 3.36 | Acidity: 6.5g/L

Maturation

Matured in new French and American hogsheads for approximately 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

Background

Over 165 years ago Johann Christian Henschke came from Silesia to settle and farm in the Eden Valley region. By the time third-generation Paul Alfred Henschke took over the reins in 1914, the famous Hill of Grace vines were more than 50 years old. They were planted around the 1860s by an ancestor, Nicolaus Stanitzki, in rich alluvial soil in a shallow fertile valley just north-west of the winery. The red-brown earth grading to deep silty loam has excellent moisture-holding capacity for these dry-grown vines, which sit at an altitude of 400m, with an average rainfall of 520mm. Hill of Grace is a unique, delineated, historic single vineyard that lies opposite a beautiful old Lutheran church which is named after a picturesque region in Silesia called Gnadenberg, meaning Hill of Grace. Cyril Henschke made the first single-vineyard shiraz wine from this vineyard in 1958 from handpicked grapes vinified in traditional open-top fermenters.

Vintage Description

The 1991 vintage in Eden Valley was preceded by a short winter with below average rainfall. Budburst and flowering were early throughout mild spring conditions and a warm to hot summer. It was the earliest vintage on record with the hot weather producing high sugar levels and below average yields, yet great concentration of fruit flavours.

Wine Description

Dark crimson with brick red hues. Intensely scented nose of black fruits, ripe plums, licorice, anise and five spice. The palate is rich, complex and pure, with seductive flavours of ripe plum skin, menthol and spice; wonderful balance of crisp acid and firm, fine-grained tannins extending through to a complete and beautifully mellow finish.

Reviewed March 2013



Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage,
20+ years (from vintage).