



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Julius Riesling 1998

Grape Variety

100% riesling grown in Eden Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 1-13 March | Alcohol: 11.5% | pH: 3.05 | Acidity: 7.7g/L

Maturation

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage (no oak or tank maturation) to preserve the wine's fruit character.

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. The wine is named after ancestor Julius Henschke, a highly acclaimed artist and sculptor.

Vintage Description

The 1998 vintage was a result of an unusual year, which was attributed to El Niño. The preceding winter was unusually dry, with frosty nights and clear days. Spring rains saw flourishing vines which benefited from the greenhouse effect. It was a mild summer generally with a burst of heat in mid-January and at the end of February, which delayed the ripening process. An early onset of autumn meant a late harvest with average yields. Rains over Easter and the following two weeks, coinciding with harvest, caused the onset of botrytis in later ripening varieties, but still resulted in excellent quality, flavour and colour.

Wine Description

Deep gold with green hues. Lifted aromas of citrus florals, marmalade, pepper and waxy notes. The palate is rich and powerful with lively citrus, slatey minerality and complex acidity for a beautifully balanced, long, fine finish.

Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage,
20+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed April 2011