

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage, 15+ years (from vintage).

Julius Riesling 2013

Grape Variety

100% riesling grown in Eden Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 24 February-9 March | Alcohol: 11.5% | pH: 2.98 | Acidity: 7.59g/L

Maturation

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

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 lead-up to the 2013 vintage saw an early onset of summer, with occasional thunder-storms and only four heat spikes, into the 40s, over summer. A cooler than average January followed by a warm February, brought the predicted early vintage even further forward. Even after the *dry-fecta* of winter/spring/summer the word from the winery floor was that it would be another great Eden Valley riesling year, followed up with some great old-vine shiraz. Fortunately, a desperately needed 16mm of rain came, the first for nearly six months, at the beginning of March to help the dry-grown vines struggle through to full maturity. The roller-coaster weather ride continued through March with almost weekly cycles of hot and cold. Cool drizzly weather at the end of March nearly brought the harvest to a halt, but with a return to the Indian summer conditions in early April, it gave us a chance to get the late varieties in Eden Valley over the line, predominantly cabernet sauvignon and merlot, returning us to another great vintage of average yields and fabulous rock solid quality.

Wine Description

Pale lemon with vibrant lime hues. Delicate, fragrant, floral aromas reminiscent of a bowl of fresh flowers filled with citrus blossom, frangipani and lavender, entwined with mineral notes and a hint of green peppercorn and star anise. The palate exhibits intense layers of lime juice, mineral and crushed rock characters, and while tightly wound, shows excellent depth with a long, crisp, dry and zesty finish.

Reviewed July 2013