



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Joseph Hill Gewürztraminer 2002

Grape Variety

100% gewürztraminer grown in Eden Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 27 March | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 3.09 | Acidity: 7.0g/L

Maturation

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

Background

The traminer grape originated in the Tramin area of the north-east of Italy. This variety has been grown for centuries in French Alsace and Germany. The German prefix *gewürz*, meaning spicy, is used when the wine exhibits an aromatic spicy character. The altitude, cool climate and deep loam soils of Eden Valley provide excellent conditions for this variety. The gewürztraminer vineyard is planted on well-drained deep sandy loam and silt. It is named after Joseph Hill Thyer who pioneered the first vines on this property in the early 1900s.

Vintage Description

The year 2002 goes down as being the coolest, windiest 'non-summer' on record, following on from our hottest summer on record in 2001. It was preceded by a wet winter and a spring that was cold, wet and windy – like winter really. The drizzly cold weather affected the flowering and caused poor fruit set, commonly known as 'hen and chicken', leading to very little fruit. In particular riesling and shiraz, Eden Valley signature varieties, were the worst affected with crop reductions leaving us with less than 20% in some varieties. In addition the season was 2-3 weeks late due to the unseasonable cold weather. With the smaller crop level, the balance of sugar, flavour and natural acidity in the fruit were excellent. Despite the pitiful crop 2002 was one of our most exceptional vintages ever, helped by the warm dry Indian summer autumn period, providing sensational colours, flavours and ageing potential.

Wine Description

Green gold in colour. Aromatic and perfumed with herbaceous hints of rosewater, Turkish delight, lychee and jackfruit. Soft, rich sweet fruit with intense flavours on the palate, nice texture, finishing long and crisp.

Cellaring Potential

Exceptional vintage,