

*Exceptional Wines from Outstanding Vineyards*

*Wine and Vintage:* Hill of Grace 1982 Museum Release

*Grape Variety:* 100% shiraz grapes from pre-phyloxera material brought from Europe by the early German settlers in the mid 1800s, and grown in the Eden Valley wine region.

*Background:* Hill of Grace is a unique delineated single historic vineyard. The famous century-old Hill of Grace vines 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 vineyard lies opposite a beautiful old Lutheran Church, built of local field stone, which was euphoniously named Gnadenberg, meaning 'Hill of Grace'.

*Vintage Description:* The 1982 vintage was very good, both from quality and quantity aspects. Yields were up, some varieties by 50% and more. Good winter rains and a mild spring ensured good fruit set. The summer was dry and generally mild except for a severe heatwave just prior to vintage. Fortunately the extremely wet winter provided sufficient soil moisture for the vines during the hot spell. Late rains at the end of April brought the vintage to a rapid halt with grapes splitting badly, causing some fruit loss.

*Wine Description:* Deep brick red colour. Sweet ripe plum jam, prune, licorice and exotic floral aromas. Spicy and gamy with chocolate, leather and sweet earthy notes, violets, sweet ripe cherries and plums. Intense, rich and concentrated with a silky long finish.

*Cellaring Potential:* Excellent vintage, drink now. Decant before serving.

*Serving Suggestions:* Char-grilled aged beef, herb-crusted fillet of lamb, slow oven-roasted crispy skin duck and matured cheeses.