

HENSCHKE



Tasting Notes

Wine and Vintage

Littlehampton Innes Vineyard Pinot Gris 1999

Grape Variety

100% pinot gris grown by David and Annette Innes at Littlehampton in the Adelaide Hills.

Background

The Adelaide Hills is located in the Mount Lofty Ranges east of the city of Adelaide, with an altitude ranging from 400-600 metres and a rainfall of around 700-1000 mm. Soils consist of sandy loam overlying weathered shale and clay, which provide excellent conditions for viticulture. Littlehampton lies towards the eastern side of the range 25km from Adelaide and has recently been developed as a grape area. Viticulture was first established in the Adelaide Hills in 1839 by John Barton Hack near Mount Barker, just 5km from Littlehampton. Pinot gris, called tokay d'Alsace in France, grauburgunder in Germany and pinot grigio in Italy, has its origins in France as a bud mutation of pinot blanc. It has become a highly regarded variety around the world.

Vintage Description

The 1999 pinot gris, the third crop from the Innes vineyard at Littlehampton, was picked in early April, whole-bunch pressed and underwent malolactic fermentation and lees ageing. One of the hottest summers on record. Dry conditions, followed by tropical cyclones Vance and Elaine, brought unseasonal rains in mid March and provided new challenges for the Adelaide Hills - botrytis problems, shrivelled fruit and delays in harvest.

Wine Description

Gold/salmon in colour. Sweet floral honey, barley sugar, butterscotch and honeysuckle aromas with white peach, lemon and pear nuances. Opulent with an intense fat mid palate, complex biscuit and butterscotch flavours and a long intense finish.

Cellaring Potential

Great vintage, optimum year 2001.

Serving Ideas

Seafood, vegetarian pâté, antipasto and simple pasta dishes.