HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Hill of Roses Shiraz 2005

Grape Variety

100% shiraz grown in the Eden Valley wine region.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 16 March | Alcohol : 14.5% | pH: 3.53 | Acidity: 5.8 g/L

Maturation

Matured in new French oak hogsheads for two years.

Background

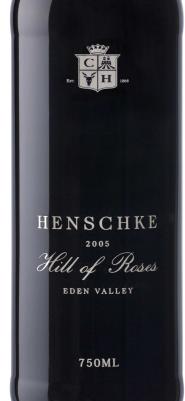
This wine is named as a tribute to Johann Gottlieb Rosenzweig, one of the early Barossa Lutheran pioneers who settled at Parrot Hill in the Barossa Range whose name translates as 'rose twig'. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant the many generations that followed have rejoiced in the riches of those prudent efforts. Shiraz, growing on the fertile slopes in the Eden Valley region, is just one of those blessings. The wine is produced from a small selection of low-yielding, dry-grown shiraz vines from the Hill of Grace vineyard, named the Post Office Block, that are a mere 18 years old, at present too young to be considered for inclusion in Hill of Grace vintages. The quality of the grapes from this selection has produced a wine that was too good to be declassified and warranted a separate bottling and limited release. Extremely limited production. The Post Office ruins are on land that used to be Rosenzweig property.

Vintage Description

Vintage 2005 was early, warm, quick, fantastic quality with good yields - and exhausting. Above average winter rains led into a beautiful spring, with some early November frosts but good flowering weather in late November and early December. Summer was wet and wild, with an amazing roller-coaster of weekly thunderstorms that helped maintain good subsoil moisture. Rains in January were followed by a dry February, and the dry weather continued right through the autumn. Warmer than usual autumnal weather caused an early, compact harvest of above average yields. The late Indian summer lasted into May, well after all the fruit was harvested, at maturity figures, flavour and colour not seen before the 2002 vintage. The quality of the 2005 vintage is sure to be ranked as one of the best on record, after 2002, with all varieties showing strongly. Once again the signature varieties for Eden Valley, ie, riesling and shiraz, performed brilliantly.

Wine Description

Deep crimson with violet hues. Perfumed with five spice and sweet, lifted, ripe blackberry fruits, violets, plums and anise, supported by cedary oak. The silky palate is soft, fleshy and lush with satsuma plums, black fruits and violets and subtle hints of mint and clove; a seamless structure finishing with long fine tannins.



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Cellaring Potential Exceptional vintage, drink now to 2020.