

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards





Grape Variety

100% 85-year-old-vine shiraz grapes grown in the Eden Valley wine region.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: Mid-May | Alcohol: 14.4% | pH: 3.46 | Acidity: 5.7g/L

Maturation

Matured in new and seasoned American and French hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling. Bottle aged at Henschke Cellars in Keyneton for museum release.

Background

Mount Edelstone is a translation from the German 'Edelstein', meaning gemstone. The 16ha vineyard, situated in the Eden Valley, was planted in 1912 by Ronald Angas, a descendant of George Fife Angas, who founded South Australia. Unusual for its time, it was planted solely to shiraz in ancient 500-million-year-old soils of deep red-brown clay-loam to clay, resulting in low yields from dry-grown ungrafted vines that are now 100 years old. Cyril Henschke contracted the grapes from Ronald's son Colin Angas in the early 1950s, with the first Mount Edelstone bottled as a single-vineyard wine in 1952, and has become recognised as one of Australia's greatest shiraz wines.

Vintage Description

A wet winter, with average rainfall during the four-month winter period, followed by a mild, dry spring, leading to excellent growth, good set and vigour; however, frosts caused damage in some vineyards. A mild, late Indian summer ended the cool season, ensuring excellent ripening conditions and accumulation of colour and flavour.

Wine Description

Crimson with brick red hues. An attractive bouquet of ripe dark plums and red and black berry fruits are complemented by Mount Edelstone's signature nuances of leafy crushed sage, pepper and cardamom spice. The palate is youthful for its age with intense rich plum, vanilla and black peppercorn flavours, elegantly supported by layers of cedary oak and velvety tannins for a beautifully long finish.

Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage, 20+ years (from vintage). Ideal to drink now. Reviewed April 2012