



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2021 MOUNT EDELSTONE

GRAPE VARIETY

100% 109-year-old single-vineyard shiraz grown on the Henschke Mount Edelstone Vineyard in the Eden Valley wine region, managed with organic and biodynamic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 31 March – 12 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.51 | Acidity: 6.0g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 9% new and 91% seasoned (80% French, 20% American) oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep crimson with ruby hues. Intensely fragrant aromas of blackberry, blueberry and Satsuma plum with signature spice notes of black, white and green peppercorn, wild sage, fresh bay leaf and bundled thyme. The palate is complex, plush and spicy, with black and blue fruits, rich dark licorice and fresh cut herbs, framed by elegant acidity and fine, velvety tannins for an exceptionally long, detailed finish.

BACKGROUND

The beautiful and historic name Mount Edelstone is a translation from the German *Edelstein* meaning 'gemstone', a reference to the small yellow opals once found in the area. The Mount Edelstone Vineyard was planted in 1912 by Ronald Angas, a descendant of George Fife Angas who founded The South Australian Company and played a significant role in the formation and establishment of South Australia. Unusual for its time, the vineyard was planted solely to shiraz. The ancient 500-million-year-old geology in the vineyard has given rise to soils that are deep red-brown clay-loam to clay, resulting in low yields from the dry-grown, ungrafted centenarian vines. The wine was first bottled as a single-vineyard shiraz in 1952 by fourth-generation Cyril Henschke. By the time Cyril purchased the vineyard from Colin Angas in 1974, Mount Edelstone was already well entrenched as one of Australia's greatest shiraz wines. Crafted by the Henschke family for over 65 years now, Mount Edelstone is arguably the longest consecutively-produced, single-vineyard wine in Australia.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Average rainfall in the winter of 2020 was followed by even budburst, with buds showing good fruitfulness. Frost damage was significant, and spring was cloudy, with good rains pre-flowering, followed by short bursts of hot weather in late November. The late-flowering varieties were impacted by heat at the end of November and strong winds in early December damaged the canopies, although the crop remained disease free. January was dry, with a burst of heat prior to a perfectly timed rain event at veraison in early February. The lead up to vintage was cool, cloudy and mostly dry. After our coolest summer for 19 years, a warm autumn provided ideal conditions for ripening in our red varieties, achieving excellent colour, flavour intensity and tannin maturity. The 2021 vintage will be considered a standout of the decade; remembered for complex wines with exceptional varietal expression, balance and purity, that speak of the ancient land from which they originate. With a likeness to the high-quality vintages of 1986, 2002, 2005, and 2015, all of which were mild seasons, the 2021 single-vineyard wines show an impressive potential for long-term ageing in ideal cellaring conditions.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage;
30+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED June 2024



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