150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2016 JOHANN'S GARDEN

GRAPE VARIETY

66% grenache, 31% mataro and 3% shiraz grapes grown in the Barossa Valley.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 3 March - 5 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.37 | Acidity: 5.9g/L

MATURATION

Grenache, mataro and shiraz vinified separately. Matured in seasoned French hogsheads for 10 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep crimson in colour with purple hues. Incredibly fragrant aromas of raspberry, dark plum, spicy blueberry and red currant are complemented by notes of mace, nutmeg, white pepper and musk. The rich and intense palate shows excellent structure and complexity, bursting with wild berry, dark plum and entwined with an array of dried spices. Layers of firm yet silky tannins provide exceptional length.

BACKGROUND

Named as a tribute to the early German Silesian pioneers of the Barossa, many of whom carried the first name of *Johann*. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant that the many generations that followed rejoiced in the riches of their prudent efforts. Barossa growers traditionally referred to their vineyard as their 'garden', from the German *weingarten*. This blend is just one of those blessings. The traditions and culture have survived to this day, including the winemaking techniques used in this grenache blend. It is produced from low-yielding, old, gnarled, dry-grown bush and trellised vines on limestone soils from selected vineyards.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2016 vintage began with well below-average winter rainfall, followed by a warm and dry spring, which enhanced flowering and fruit set. Low disease pressure was maintained by one of the hottest Decembers on record, though temperatures cooled down in the New Year and rainfall around veraison in late January brought relief to the drygrown vineyards. This was followed by further rainfall in early March with an earlier harvest as predicted due to an early Easter. Open, light and airy vine canopies allowed for good flavour, sugar and colour, and mature tannins to develop at harvest, which was overall characterised by average yields but very high quality.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage, 20+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED May 2018

