OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage; 25+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED July 2023

2023 JULIUS

GRAPE VARIETY

100% riesling grown on the Henschke Eden Valley Vineyard, managed with organic and biodynamic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 17 - 23 March | Alcohol: 12% | pH: 2.95 | Acidity: 9.06g/L

MATURATION

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage to preserve the delicate aromatic fruit characters.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale gold with lime green hues. Intensely perfumed aromas of citrus blossom, freesia and Kaffir lime leaf, with notes of jasmine and delicate hints of fresh almond and thyme. The palate is rich and concentrated with lemon zest, finger lime and lime sherbet leading into a textural mid-palate. Crisp and refined acidity provides laser focus for a long, powerful finish.

BACKGROUND

Fourth-generation winemaker, Cyril developed the Henschke reputation for premium Eden Valley riesling from 1961. This region provides ideal ripening conditions for riesling and a unique track record of exceptional ageing potential. The Henschke Eden Valley riesling vineyard is planted on sandy loam over gravel and bedrock with patches of clay. Since 1992, this wine has been named as a tribute to ancestor Albert Julius Henschke (1888-1955), a highly acclaimed artist and sculptor. Julius was recognised for his ornate headstones and angel sculptures at the Gnadenberg Cemetery, as well as his most celebrated work, the inspiring National War Memorial on North Terrace in Adelaide.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

While the winter of 2022 saw average rainfall, the latter part of the year brought cooler and above average wet weather. This led to poor flower set and encouraged the spread of downy mildew. A hail flurry on 23 January caused some damage to the green berries, which became sites for botrytis infections later during ripening. The cool lead up to vintage resulted in a slow ripening period, allowing for great flavour development and acid retention. Rainfall during harvest encouraged the growth of botrytis, but careful hand selection during picking delivered good quality fruit. Despite the challenges, the 2023 vintage will be remembered for excellent quality wines with riesling, semillon and shiraz the standout varieties.

