OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage; drink now – 2035+.

REVIEWED March 2025

2005 JULIUS

GRAPE VARIETY

100% riesling grown on the Henschke Eden Valley Vineyard, managed with organic and biodynamic practices, as well as selected high-quality vineyards in the Eden Valley wine region.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 31 March - 14 April | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 2.89 | Acidity: 7.5g/L

MATURATION

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage to preserve the delicate aromatic fruit characters. Bottle aged in the Henschke cellar for museum release.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep gold with green hues. Intense aromas of citrus blossom, nectarine flower, pear and lime marmalade, interlaced with clove, marzipan and honeycomb. The palate is rich and textural with lemon, lime, white peach, nectarine and chamomile, harmoniously balanced by lively acidity, excellent depth and an intense 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

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.

