HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2016 CYRIL HENSCHKE

GRAPE VARIETY

100% cabernet sauvignon grown on the Cyril Henschke Vineyard on the Henschke Eden Valley property, managed with organic and biodynamic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 12 – 13 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.56 | Acidity: 6.14g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 35% new and 65% seasoned French oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling. Bottle aged in the Henschke cellar for museum release.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep garnet with ruby hues. Complex aromas of blackcurrant and blackberry are balanced by cassis, bay leaf and crushed flowering herbs, with tomato leaf, coffee grounds and turned earth. The palate delivers black plum framed by cedar, cocoa and umami soy notes, with vibrant acidity and fine, powdery tannins leading to a long, elegant finish.

BACKGROUND

This wine carries the name of Stephen's father, fourth-generation Henschke winemaker, Cyril; a tribute to one of Australia's outstanding winemaking pioneers, who was renowned for old-vine, single-vineyard and quality varietal table wines. Cyril planted cabernet sauvignon at the Henschke Eden Valley property in the late 1960s. The cabernet sauvignon vines, along with cabernet franc and merlot, are planted on a north facing slope, and are managed with organic and biodynamic practices. First produced as a single-vineyard wine in 1978, Cyril Henschke Cabernet Sauvignon celebrates the incredible beauty that emerges from the vibrant rows of this Eden Valley vineyard, revered for its texture, depth, complexity and fine-grained tannins.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2016 vintage began with 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 in the New Year and rainfall around veraison in late January brought relief to the vineyard. This was followed by further rainfall in early March, which eased stress on all varieties. Open, light canopies allowed for good flavour, sugar and colour, and mature tannins to develop at harvest, with the vintage overall characterised by average yields but very high quality.

DRINKING WINDOW

Exceptional vintage;
drink now to 2045+.

REVIEWED May 2026

A PROUD MEMBER OF AUSTRALIA'S FIRST FAMILIES OF WINE

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