



HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2013 CYRIL HENSCHKE

GRAPE VARIETY

88% cabernet sauvignon, 7% cabernet franc and 5% merlot grapes from vines which are managed using biodynamic principles grown on the Henschke Eden Valley vineyard.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 12 - 19 April | Alcohol: 14% | pH: 3.58 | Acidity: 6.59g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 42% new and 58% seasoned French oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep crimson in colour. Fragrant aromas of black currant, cassis, dark plum and blue and black berry fruits. Floral violet nuances, and enticing notes of bramble, dried herbs and spice are layered with just a hint of cedar and graphite complexity. The palate is focussed and lush, with wild blue, black and red berry fruit flavours complemented by layers of dried herbs, spice, vanilla and cedar. An elegant thread of acidity and fine rolling tannins provide structure and poise.

BACKGROUND

This wine carries the name of Stephen's father, Cyril Henschke (1924-1979), as a tribute to one of Australia's outstanding winemaking pioneers, renowned for old-vine single-vineyard and quality varietal table wines. Cyril planted cabernet sauvignon at the Henschke Eden Valley vineyard in the 1960s.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The lead-up to the 2013 vintage saw an early onset of summer, with occasional thunderstorms and only four heat spikes into the 40s. A cooler than average January followed by a warm February, brought the predicted early vintage even further forward. Fortunately, 16mm of rain fell at the beginning of March, the first for nearly six months, to help the dry-grown vines struggle through to full maturity. The roller-coaster weather ride continued through March with almost weekly cycles of hot and cold. Cool drizzly weather at the end of March nearly brought the harvest to a halt, but the return of the Indian summer conditions in early April got the late varieties in Eden Valley over the line, predominantly cabernet sauvignon and merlot. Another excellent vintage of average yields and fabulous, rock-solid quality.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage,
25+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED October 2017