

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Grape Variety

65% shiraz, 25% grenache, 5% mourvèdre and 5% viognier grapes grown in the Barossa (Barossa Valley and Eden Valley).

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 20 March-17 May | Alcohol: 15% | pH: 3.62 | Acidity: 6.0g/L

Maturation

Viognier co-fermented with shiraz. Grenache and mourvèdre fermented separately. Matured in seasoned French hogsheads for 15 months prior to blending and bottling. Bottle aged at Henschke Cellars in Keyneton for cellar release.

Background

The shiraz, grenache, viognier, mourvèdre blend is a tribute to Henry Evans who planted the first vineyard of seven acres at Keyneton in 1853. He quickly developed a reputation for producing the best wines in the southern colony. Following Henry's death in 1868, his widow Sarah exercised her temperance convictions by closing the winery and uprooting all the wine grapes. This blend highlights the historical introduction of southern French and Spanish varieties to South Australia in those early pioneering days and reflects the history, religion and culture of the Barossa.

Vintage Description

Vintage 2005 was early and warm with fantastic quality and good yields. 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 as 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 since the 2002 vintage. The quality of the 2005 vintage is sure to be ranked as one of the best on record with all varieties showing strongly.

Wine Description

Deep crimson with brick red hues. Sweet, lifted aromas of dark berries and plums supported by hints of apricot and lavender florals with layers of savoury spice and tar. The palate is rich and luscious with dense berry fruits, fine tannins and a long, smooth finish.

Cellaring Potential Exceptional vintage,

10+ years (from vintage).

| BAROSSA

WINE OF AUSTRALIA 750ml

Reviewed April 2012