



HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2013 HILL OF ROSES

GRAPE VARIETY

100% shiraz grown on the Hill of Grace vineyard in the Eden Valley wine region, using organic and biodynamic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 26 - 27 March | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.68 | Acidity: 5.1g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 50% new and 50% seasoned French hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep crimson in colour. An enticing bouquet of Satsuma plum, blackberry, blueberry and raspberry compote is supported by hints of sage, bay leaf, fennel and juniper with underlying notes of black pepper. Rich and concentrated dark berry and Dutch chocolate flavours lead to notes of smoked meats and hints of cedar. A swathe of soft, silky tannins creates layers of texture for a long and lush finish.

BACKGROUND

This wine is named as a tribute to Johann Gottlieb Rosenzweig, one of the early Barossa Lutheran pioneers who settled at Parrot Hill in the Eden Valley. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant the many generations that followed have rejoiced in the riches of those efforts. Shiraz, growing on the fertile slopes in the Eden Valley region, is just one of those blessings. The wine was produced from a small selection of low-yielding, dry-grown shiraz vines from the Hill of Grace vineyard, named the Post Office block, that were a mere 25 years old at the time of picking and therefore considered too young for inclusion into Hill of Grace Shiraz. The quality of the grapes from this selection produced a wine that was too good to be declassified and warranted a separate bottling and limited release. The Post Office ruins are on the land that was previously Rosenzweig property, the Rosenzweig name translating from German to 'rose twig'.

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, over summer. A cooler than average January followed by a warm February, brought the predicted early vintage even further forward. Even after the *dry-fecta* of winter/spring/summer the word from the winery floor was that it would be another great year for old-vine Eden Valley shiraz. Fortunately, a desperately needed 16mm of rain came, the first for nearly six months, at the beginning of March 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 a return to the Indian summer conditions in early April gave us a chance to get the late varieties in Eden Valley over the line for another great vintage of average yields and fabulous quality.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Great vintage,
30+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED November 2018