



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Hill of Roses Shiraz 2004

Grape Variety

100% shiraz grown in the Eden Valley wine region.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 16 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.59 | Acidity: 5.7 g/L

Maturation

Matured in new French oak hogsheads for two years.

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 Barossa Range whose name translates as 'rose twig'. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant the many generations that followed have rejoiced in the riches of those prudent efforts. Shiraz, growing on the fertile slopes in the Eden Valley region, is just one of those blessings. The wine is produced from a small selection of low-yielding, dry-grown shiraz vines from the Hill of Grace vineyard, named the Post Office Block, that are a mere 18 years old, at present too young to be considered for inclusion in Hill of Grace vintages. The quality of the grapes from this selection has produced a wine that was too good to be declassified and warranted a separate bottling and limited release. Extremely limited production. The Post Office ruins are on land that used to be Rosenzweig property.

Vintage Description

The average winter rainfall this season was a welcome relief after 2003's fourth-worst drought in history. A relatively frost-free, wet warm and thundery spring followed, creating a natural 'greenhouse' effect. The vines grew vigorously, flowered and in general set a large crop. December was the hottest for 10 years, however at the start of 2004 the weather became mild and windy and the vines thrived under virtually no heat stress. At the start of February searing heat caused sunburn and significant crop losses. New records were broken with South Australia experiencing its hottest day ever. Fortunately March returned the region to glorious sunny days and cold dewy nights, with a couple of minor rain events, allowing the fruit to ripen under near perfect conditions. The vintage was almost as late as 2002 with good yields and excellent fruit quality.

Wine Description

Deep crimson in colour. Sweet spicy plum with blackberry, blueberry and rhubarb aromas and hints of sage, bacon, mint, cedar, anise and vanilla. Complex, supple velvety tannins and a sweet fleshy texture with good depth and length.

Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage,
drink now to 2016.