



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Johann's Garden 2005 (Cellar Release)

Grape Variety

68% grenache, 19% mourvèdre and 13% shiraz grapes from selected vineyards growing in the Barossa Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 28 March-6 April | Alcohol: 15% | pH: 3.56 | Acidity: 5.7g/L

Maturation

Grenache, mourvèdre and shiraz vinified separately. Matured in seasoned French hogsheads for 12 months prior to blending and bottling.

Background

Named as a tribute to the early Barossa Lutheran pioneers, many of whom carried the first name of *Johann*. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant that the many generations that followed rejoiced in the riches of their prudent efforts. Barossa growers traditionally referred to their vineyard as their garden, from the German *Weingarten*. This blend is just one of those blessings. The traditions and culture have survived to this day, including the winemaking techniques used in this grenache blend. It is produced from low-yielding, old, gnarled, dry-grown bush and trellised vines on limestone soils from selected vineyards.

Vintage Description

Vintage 2005 was early, warm, quick, fantastic quality with good yields - and exhausting. 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 an 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 before the 2002 vintage. The quality of the 2005 vintage is sure to be ranked as one of the best on record, after 2002, with all varieties showing strongly. Once again the signature varieties for Eden Valley, ie, riesling and shiraz, performed brilliantly.

Wine Description

Deep crimson in colour. Sweet, ripe and concentrated with tar, mace, plum, prune and raspberry jam. A juicy, sweet, spicy and lush palate, concentrated and complex with velvety tannins and great length.

Cellaring Potential

Exceptional vintage,
10+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed October 2010