



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2017 THE ALAN

GRAPE VARIETY

100% pinot noir grown on the Henschke Lenswood Archer's Vineyard in the Adelaide Hills, managed with organic and biodynamic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 6 April | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 3.61 | Acidity: 5.8g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 100% seasoned French oak barriques for 10 months prior to blending and bottling. Matured in bottle for 3 years prior to release.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Medium ruby with garnet hues. Fragrant and complex aromas of red and black cherries, cranberry, red currant, flowering oregano, white pepper, graphite and tomato stem, with supporting notes of musk, clove and cedar. A plush and textured palate of savoury, salted plum layered with spiced red cherry and currants, framed by well-balanced acidity and a long, driving finish of silky, supple tannins.

BACKGROUND

The Alan is a reserve release pinot noir, produced from a hand-selection of fruit from vines planted in the early 1980's at Lenswood in the Adelaide Hills, purchased by Stephen and Prue Henschke in 2010 and now known as the 'Archer's Vineyard'. The wine is named in memory of Alan Archer, a former owner of the property and an old friend of the Henschke family, whose love of wine and food helped to create The Chesser Cellar's fame in Adelaide.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Extremely heavy winter rainfall and ferocious spring winds and hail set up one of the most challenging vintages we have ever experienced at Lenswood. Flowering was late, occurring in December rather than November, in rare calm and sunny weather which set us up for good yields. The conditions post-Christmas were characterised by elevated evening temperatures, heavy rain every four days, foggy mornings and low day time temperatures. Harvest started in March; three weeks later than usual. By Easter, all Adelaide Hills whites and our pinot noir were safely in the winery, and in excellent condition despite 760mm falling during the growing season. This was a vintage saved in the vineyard by the outstanding work of the Adelaide Hills viticultural team under extremely trying conditions, with results that exceeded expectations. The Lenswood vineyard continues to show enormous resilience, and the soil health no doubt plays an important role in the beautiful wines created in 2017.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage;
20+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED June 2021