



HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2013 THE ALAN RESERVE PINOT NOIR

GRAPE VARIETY

100% pinot noir grown on the Henschke Archer's Vineyard at Lenswood in the Adelaide Hills.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 20 February - 1 March | Alcohol: 13.5% | pH: 3.53 | Acidity: 5.74g/L

MATURATION

Matured on lees in seasoned French barriques for 15 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Crimson red with garnet hues. Spicy red cherry, wild forest berries and red currant aromas entwine with nuances of tomato stem, raspberry leaf, fennel and dried herbs and savoury notes of cured meats, clove and nutmeg. Plush red and black fruits are supported by savoury tannins and red currant acidity to create supple layers of texture for a long and elegantly spicy finish.

BACKGROUND

In 1981, fifth-generation winemaker Stephen Henschke and his viticulturist wife Prue purchased a property in the Adelaide Hills with the intention of planting varieties well-suited to the cooler climate of the region. The vineyard was originally part of a beautiful valley of apple orchards and natural forest that were destroyed by the Ash Wednesday bushfires in 1983. This reserve pinot noir is produced from hand-selected fruit from the best plots of 25-year-old vines and named as a tribute to Alan Archer, whose love of wine and food helped to create The Chesser Cellar's fame in Adelaide.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2013 harvest was expected to be early, with the full moon of Easter very close to the autumn equinox, and sure enough budburst started early in spring 2012. All varieties woke to a cool and mild spring that led into a mild November, with warm days and nights providing excellent conditions for flowering. Spring was conspicuous for its dryness but thankfully frost free, and as summer approached the vines developed beautifully balanced canopies and rain was just a distant memory. It was not to rain again until the end of harvest, seven dry months that produced a green drought. As harvest time approached, it was abundantly clear that 2013 was going to be exceptional in terms of yield and quality across all varieties. The 2013 harvest will be remembered as near perfection in a year of snow and drought, truly a rare and excellent vintage.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage,
20+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED October 2017