



HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2015 THE WHEELWRIGHT

GRAPE VARIETY

100% shiraz grown on the Henschke Eden Valley vineyard.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 20 March - 2 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.46 | Acidity: 6.4g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 18% new and 82% seasoned (82% French, 18% American) oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Very dark crimson in colour. Lifted aromas of red fruits, Satsuma plum and blackberry harmonise with hints of bay leaf, sage, rosemary and clove, while savoury complexities and cedar notes lift and add definition. A complex and elegantly structured wine with concentrated flavours of blackberry, spiced plum and wild red berries is layered with nuances of crushed rosemary, bay leaf and black pepper. A seductive mid-palate of great depth and rolling velvety tannins lead to a deliciously long, plush finish.

BACKGROUND

The inaugural release of The Wheelwright commemorates 150 years of family winemaking and pays tribute to the 'founding father' of Henschke, Johann Christian Henschke. He was the first generation of the early Barossa German pioneers of South Australia, a winemaker who established the family winery in 1868. Johann Christian arrived as a skilled stonemason and wheelwright and planted his first vineyards in the high country of the picturesque Eden Valley. This wine is produced from Old-Vine shiraz planted in 1968, a century later, by fourth-generation Cyril Henschke. Decanting is recommended before serving.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

A traditionally wet winter, mild spring and excellent fruit set provided a great start to the 2015 vintage after four vintages with below average yields. Spring was dry and led into a very mild, dry summer with no disease, resulting in fruit with higher natural acidity, and incredible flavour and colour concentration. It was a dry, warm and windy start to January, with some welcome rain at the end of the month coinciding with the onset of veraison; perfectly timed for the old dry-grown vineyards. Mild weather followed from February through to April providing a fairytale vintage, eventually winding down at the end of April as the rain and cooler temperatures set in. The 2015 vintage has provided stunning signature regional varieties that show extraordinary flavour, purity of fruit and acid balance with the potential for exceptional ageing.

ACCOLADES

2018 The Drinks Business Global Syrah Masters - Gold Medal

2018 Barossa Wine Show - Silver Medal

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage,
25+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED May 2018

