



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2020 THE ROSE GROWER

GRAPE VARIETY

100% nebbiolo grown on the Henschke Eden Valley Vineyard, managed with organic and biodynamic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 3 April | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 3.76 | Acidity: 6.5g/L

MATURATION

Fermented on skins for 5 months and matured in 100% seasoned French oak hogsheads for 14 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale garnet with brick-red hues. Alluring aromas of red cherry, rosehip, pomegranate, with earthy spice tones of forest floor, root vegetables, truffle, nutmeg and liquorice. The palate has great structure and definition, with a bright core of red cherry, cinnamon and liquorice, lifted acidity, and a linear, savoury and firm, chalky tannin finish.

BACKGROUND

Stephen and Prue Henschke added to Cyril's original 1960s plantings on the Henschke Eden Valley Vineyard to trial newly introduced varieties to Australia: nebbiolo, barbera, tempranillo and graciano. The nebbiolo vines were planted in 2003 on rocky soils on an elevated foggy north facing slope at the source of the North Para River, at the top of the range overlooking the village of Eden Valley. First produced in 2010, this wine is named after the Roesler family who managed the property, now home to the Henschke nebbiolo vines, as a dairy for generations. In the German language, Roesler is an occupational name for a rose grower.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2020 vintage will be remembered for excellent quality wines from the Eden Valley, albeit a meagre production due to reduced yields caused by a number of poor conditions at flowering and the extremely dry winter, spring and summer of 2019/2020. The 2019 winter and spring resulted in the driest start to the growing season ever, in line with 1939 and 1961. Growth in early spring was weaker due to a hotter than average October. November was a troubling month with some frosty, wet and windy conditions during flowering. Bunch size was normal, although with few berries having set, it resulted in very open clusters. Significant heatwaves from mid-December to the end of January reduced shoot growth and berry size, however at the end of the month around 40mm of rain fell, alleviating the stress just before veraison, followed by a cool ripening period in February with just three days over 30°C. Vintage was early, beginning in late February and finishing by early April. The grapes ripened in near perfect conditions, resulting in optimal and excellent wine quality (colour, aromatics, flavours and tannin maturity). Bunches were loose and pristine, while the yield remained quite low, at about 10% of average. The 2020 white wines are finely structured, balanced and fragrant. The red wines are intense in colour, exceptionally fragrant, spicy and well-structured.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Great vintage;
15+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED September 2022