



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



1991 ABBOTTS PRAYER

GRAPE VARIETY

60% merlot and 40% cabernet sauvignon grown on the Henschke Lenswood Vineyard in the Adelaide Hills, managed with organic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: Mid April | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 3.18 | Acidity: 7.2g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 100% new French oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling. Bottle aged in the Henschke cellar for museum release.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Gamet with brick-red hues. Bright, fragrant aromas of crushed flowering herbs, rosehip and cedar, with hints of aniseed, cassis, beetroot, sweet violet and mulberry. Complex savoury layers of dried herbs, thyme and cinnamon on the palate, alongside plush notes of blackberry and blackcurrant. Balanced with vibrant acidity and fine-grained, elegant tannins.

BACKGROUND

Fifth-generation winemaker Stephen Henschke and his viticulturist wife Prue selected Lenswood in the Adelaide Hills as a new vineyard site in 1981, a serendipitous connection to the Henschke family's history in the nearby village of Lobethal, translating to 'Valley of Praise' in German. At 550m, the slopes of the Lenswood Vineyard offer not only beautiful views toward the older vine country, but also higher rainfall and humidity at the right time of year, cooler temperatures to retain natural acidity, and still enough sunshine to fully ripen the grapes. The Abbotts Prayer label links together the history, religion and farming of this mountainous region. The property along Coldstore Road, Lenswood, including historic vineyards in the area, was originally known as Abbotts Flat, and was established in the mid-1800s with the first land purchases by stock-owner Thomas Neilson Mitchell.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

A late winter with below average rainfall was followed by a mild spring. Budburst and flowering came 2 to 3 weeks early in mid-September. Summer was hot and dry with little wind and no rain until Easter, which encouraged rapid ripening and excellent maturity of the fruit. Vintage was the earliest on record and, despite the below average yields, the concentration of fruit flavours were excellent.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage;
Drink now.

REVIEWED June 2023