

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Lenswood Giles Pinot Noir 1993 (Cellar Release)



Grape Variety

100% pinot noir grapes grown on Stephen and Prue Henschke's Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 22 April | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 3.6 | Acidity: 6.3g/L

Maturation

Matured on lees in new and seasoned French barriques prior to blending and bottling. Bottle aged at Henschke Cellars in Keyneton for museum release.

Background

In 1981 fifth generation Stephen Henschke and his 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. Sitting at an altitude of 550m with an annual average rainfall of 1100mm, the Lenswood vineyard slopes offer not only beautiful views towards the old vine country, but also provide enough sunshine to fully ripen the grapes, together with cooler temperatures to retain natural acidity. The pinot noir has been named after Charles Giles, an early pioneer whose descendants had managed the property as an apple orchard since 1864.

Vintage Description

The 1993 vintage in the Adelaide Hills saw unpredictable spring weather that was not conducive to flower or berry set, resulting in below average yields. Problems with downy mildew and December's hailstorm resulted in even lower yields. A dry, mild summer followed with vintage about a month later than usual. It was the coolest February on record since 1954. A warm and dry autumn resulted in rapid ripening conditions for the below average crop, producing pinot noir of good concentration and flavour.

Wine Description

Brick red in colour. Sweet aromas of wild cherries and spicy forest herbs with a hint of toasty cedar. Rich, complex flavours of blackcurrant and cassis are beautifully balanced on the palate with fine-grained tannins for a long and structured finish.

Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage, 15+ years (from vintage). Ideal to drink now. Reviewed August 2011