

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Cellaring Potential Excellent vintage, 5+ years (from vintage).

Eleanor's Cottage Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2013

Grape Variety

A blend of 66% sauvignon blanc (from the Henschke Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills) and 34% semillon (from Henschke's Eden Valley vineyard).

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 11 February-14 March | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 3.14 | Acidity: 6.3g/L

Maturation

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage to preserve the aromatic fruit characters.

Background

The Henschke Eden Valley vineyard was originally established on the top of the range overlooking Eden Valley, a property pioneered and managed by George Crossman Thyer. In 1848 he married Eleanor Hill, after whom this wine is named, and their original cottage still exists today.

Vintage Description

The 2013 harvest in the Adelaide Hills was expected to be early, with the Easter full moon very close to the autumn equinox, and sure enough budburst started early in spring 2012 with green shoots emerging in the first week of September. All varieties woke to a cool and mild spring, with a surprising snow flurry in early October, which led into a mild November of warm days and nights, providing excellent conditions for flowering. Lenswood first saw rain at the end of harvest, seven dry months that produced a green drought with exceptional yields and quality.

Eden Valley also experienced an early onset of summer, with occasional thunderstorms, and a cooler than average January followed by a warm February completed the *dry-fecta* of winter/spring/summer. The roller-coaster weather ride continued through March with almost weekly cycles of hot and cold. Cool drizzly weather at the end of March nearly brought the harvest to a halt, but with a return to the Indian summer conditions in early April, it gave us a chance to get all varieties in Eden Valley over the line, returning us to another great vintage of average yields and fabulous rock solid quality.

Wine Description

Vibrant pale straw with lime hues. Lifted, fragrant aromas of citrus, cumquats and kaffir lime with richer notes of ripe stone-fruit, custard apple and white currant. Layered and focused, the palate shows generous ripe citrus, green apple and nectarine flavours, with a beautiful line of minerality balanced with fine acidity, leading to a long, crisp finish.

Reviewed November 2013