



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Eleanor's Cottage Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2010

Grape Variety

A blend of 56% sauvignon blanc from the Henschke Adelaide Hills vineyard and 44% semillon grapes from the Henschke vineyards at Eden Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 16 February-9 March | *Alcohol:* 12.5% | *pH:* 3.13 | *Acidity:* 6.8g/L

Maturation

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage (no oak or tank maturation) to preserve the wine's fragrant fruit characters.

Background

The Henschke Eden Valley vineyard was originally established on the top of the range overlooking Eden Valley. George Crossman Thyer, who married Eleanor Hill in 1848, pioneered and managed the property. Their original pioneering cottage still exists.

Vintage Description

The 2010 growing season was preceded by above average winter rainfall that built up moisture in the soil profile and provided water for the dams. Spring was mild with little frost damage and gave us an even budburst. The weather remained cold and wet through spring which held back growth until a two-week high 30s heat wave in November affected flowering and fruit set. Spring rains continued into early summer right through until mid-December, making it the wettest year since 2005. The vines responded to the heat and grew vigorously until early January, developing lush canopies, but bunch development suffered as a result.

A roller-coaster ride of heat spikes and cool changes continued through a warm summer with occasional thunderstorms. The vines continued to look very healthy and went through veraison a week earlier than in 2009. Lower yields coupled with the mild ripening period resulted in incredibly concentrated fruit. Vintage began a week earlier than last year, on February 8, and was in full swing by mid-February. The white vintage was all but finished a month later, with no signs of sunburn or drought-affected berries. The red harvest continued with deeply coloured, well-balanced grapes being picked during superb mild, dry conditions through to the third week of April. The signature varieties of Eden Valley, riesling and shiraz, once again produced exceptional quality with great acid balance.

Wine Description

Green-gold in colour. The perfumed nose displays tropical fruits with hints of stone-fruit and lemon zest. Rich, spicy citrus flavours, crisp acidity with a delicious balance and good length.

Reviewed July 2010



Cellaring Potential

Exceptional vintage, drink now to 5+ years.