

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Joseph Hill Gewürztraminer 2015

Grape Variety

100% gewürztraminer grown in the Adelaide Hills (87%) and Eden Valley (13%).

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 17-23 February | Alcohol: 12.5% | pH: 3.22 | Acidity: 6.57g/L

Maturation

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

Background

The traminer grape originated in the Tramin area of the north-east of Italy. This variety has been grown for centuries in French Alsace and Germany. The altitude, cool climate and deep loam soils of Eden Valley provide excellent conditions for this variety. The gewürztraminer vineyard is planted on well-drained deep sandy loam and silt and is named after Joseph Hill Thyer who pioneered the first vines on this property in the early 1900s. This year a percentage from the Henschke Archer's Vineyard has been included to lend greater aromatics and complexity.

Vintage Description

A traditionally wet winter, mild spring and excellent fruit set provided a great start to the 2015 vintage after four vintages with below average yields. Spring was dry and led into a very mild, dry summer with no disease, resulting in fruit with higher natural acidity, and incredible flavour and colour concentration. A dry, warm and windy start to January, however, resulted in one of the worst bushfires in the Adelaide Hills in living memory, though well away from our Adelaide Hills vineyards. By the end of the first week, relief came with 60-75mm of rain and a record-breaking coolest January in 11 years. With the onset of veraison at the end of January, the rain was perfectly timed for the old dry-grown vineyards, and the mild weather that followed from February through to April provided for a fairytale vintage. Most of our white varieties were in before Easter, moving on to the Adelaide Hills red varieties soon after, and eventually winding down at the end of April as the rain and cooler temperatures set in. The 2015 vintage has provided classic Adelaide Hills expressions of riesling, chardonnay and pinot noir, with varieties such as gewürztraminer showing extraordinary flavour, purity of fruit and acid balance with the potential for excellent ageing.

Wine Description

Pale straw with green hues. A lifted and perfumed nose of Turkish delight, lychee, musk and frangipani with a hint of clove spice. A luscious palate displaying stone-fruits and fresh citrus zest, a building natural acidity providing beautiful balance with a chalky minerality, and a long, dry finish.

Reviewed August 2015



Cellaring Potential Excellent vintage, 15+ years (from vintage).