



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Joseph Hill Gewürztraminer 1999

Grape Variety

100% gewürztraminer grown in Eden Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 23 March | *Alcohol:* 13.5% | *pH:* 2.86 | *Acidity:* 7.8g/L

Maturation

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage (no oak or tank maturation) to preserve the wine's 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 German prefix *gewürz*, meaning spicy, is used when the wine exhibits an aromatic spicy character. 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. It is named after Joseph Hill Thyer who pioneered the first vines on this property in the early 1900s.

Vintage Description

The latter part of spring led into one of the hottest summers on record, with virtually no rain. The drought conditions resulted in smaller berry size producing spicy, dark, intense reds. Tropical cyclones Elaine and Vance brought unseasonal rains in mid-March, causing widespread botrytis problems requiring careful handpicking. 1999 proved to be another challenging vintage for Eden Valley although the final quality results were outstanding

Wine Description

Gold with green hues. Distinctive rosehip, honeyed aromas accented with lavender, Turkish delight, cumquat and ginger. On the palate, sweet fruit characters with hints of ginger spice and mint leaf are balanced by a long, clean, crisp acid finish.

Reviewed July 2009



Cellaring Potential

Great vintage, 10+ years.