



HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2018 JOSEPH HILL GEWÜRZTRAMINER

GRAPE VARIETY

100% gewürztraminer grown organically and biodynamically on Stephen and Prue's Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills and the Henschke Eden Valley vineyard.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 5 - 6 March | Alcohol: 12.5% | pH: 3.03 | Acidity: 5.16g/L

MATURATION

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

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale straw in colour with green-gold hues. Intense and lifted rose petal aromas with a hint of musk stick and lavender, complemented by white nectarine and lychee. Rich and focussed with a textural mid-palate of tropical fruit and white peach flavours, balanced by lime juice acidity for a long, fine, clean finish.

BACKGROUND

The traminer grape originated in the Tramin region of the north-east of Italy and has been grown for centuries in France and Germany. The altitude, cool climate and sandy loam and shale soils of the Lenswood vineyard are brilliantly suited to this variety. Gewürztraminer planted on the steep south-facing Lenswood slopes lends beautiful aromatics and complexity to the rose petal flavours of the Eden Valley. Named in tribute to Joseph Hill Thyer who pioneered the first vines on this property in the early 1900s.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

After a typical wet and cold winter, spring brought particularly mild and unstable weather to Lenswood with fogs, rain and numerous hail events, fortunately with no resulting damage. These cold hail blasts delayed flowering, and due to an early Harvest Moon, the growing season became quite compressed, requiring more work in the vineyard with shoot thinning and foliage lifting. A long, dry mild spell from Christmas to Easter provided ideal ripening conditions; allowing tannins to mature, acids to moderate and depth of flavour to develop. Fruit quality across the board was outstanding, the whites in particular for their purity and balance, which really defined the season after some challenging early conditions. 2018 was a fantastic year for Lenswood, with high natural acidities and excellent varietal character.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage,
15+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED August 2018