



# HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



## 2023 JOHANN'S GARDEN

### GRAPE VARIETY

60% grenache and 40% mataro grown in the Barossa Valley.

### TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 13 - 24 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.38 | Acidity: 6.0g/L

### MATURATION

The grenache and mataro were vinified separately and matured in 100% seasoned oak hogsheads for 7 months prior to blending and bottling.

### WINE DESCRIPTION

Crimson with bright red hues. Fragrant aromas of raspberry, cherry and plum with lifted notes of white pepper, anise, crushed rosemary and lavender and violet florals. The palate is juicy and lush, with a vibrant, red-fruited palate and layers of inky ironstone and mace, balanced by a finely structured long finish.

### BACKGROUND

This wine is named as a tribute to the early German Silesian community of the Barossa, many of whom carried the first name of *Johann*. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant that the many generations that followed rejoiced in the riches of their prudent efforts. Their traditions and culture have survived to this day, including the winemaking techniques of open-top fermentation used in this grenache mataro blend. The wine is produced from low-yielding Barossa Old Vines, categorised by the Barossa Old Vine Charter as vines that are equal or greater than 35 years old. These gnarled, bush and trellised vines from selected vineyards in the Barossa Valley are grown in soils ranging from friable clay loam with limestone fragments, to deep sandy loam over clay. Barossa growers traditionally referred to their vineyard as their 'garden', from the German *der Weingarten*.

### VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

By late winter of 2022 the soil profiles had been refilled with well above average rainfall, which continued throughout spring. Shoot thinning during the growing season to open up the canopy helped to overcome disease pressure. Dry and cool conditions in December continued throughout summer, causing late flowering and impacting fruit set. Light rain events in autumn resulted in a slower ripening period in the lead up to harvest, which provided great flavour development and acid retention. Despite the challenges of the season, yields were above average with larger berry size compensating for the poor set. The 2023 vintage will be remembered for excellent quality wines with fruit purity, good structure, mature tannins and great length.

### CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage;  
15+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED November 2024