



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2021 CYRIL HENSCHKE

GRAPE VARIETY

99% cabernet sauvignon and 1% merlot grown on the Cyril Henschke Vineyard on the Henschke Eden Valley property, managed with organic and biodynamic practices.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 14 – 16 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.51 | Acidity: 6.4g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 8% new and 92% seasoned French oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep crimson with violet hues. Spicy, perfumed aromas of blackcurrant, anise, violets, tomato leaf and cedar, with notes of bay leaf, black olive, crushed flowering herbs, cinnamon and cardamom. The palate is bright, vibrant and textural with pristine cassis building into complex layers of cocoa, cedar and sandalwood. Balanced acidity provides freshness and structure to the plush fruit, framed by an elegant tannin profile that persists through to the long fine, seamless finish.

BACKGROUND

This wine carries the name of Stephen's father, fourth-generation Henschke winemaker, Cyril Henschke (1924-1979); a tribute to one of Australia's outstanding winemaking pioneers, who was renowned for old-vine, single-vineyard and quality varietal table wines. Cyril planted cabernet sauvignon at the Henschke Eden Valley property in the late 1960s. The cabernet sauvignon vines, along with cabernet franc and merlot, are planted on a north facing slope, and are managed with organic and biodynamic practices. First produced as a single-vineyard wine in 1978, Cyril Henschke Cabernet Sauvignon celebrates the incredible beauty that emerges from the vibrant rows of this Eden Valley vineyard, revered for its texture, depth, complexity and fine-grained tannins.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Average rainfall in the winter of 2020 was followed by even budburst, with buds showing good fruitfulness. Frost damage was significant, and spring was cloudy, with good rains pre-flowering, followed by short bursts of hot weather in late November. The late-flowering varieties were impacted by heat at the end of November and strong winds in early December damaged the canopies, although the crop remained disease free. January was dry, with a burst of heat prior to a perfectly timed rain event at veraison in early February. The lead up to vintage was cool, cloudy and mostly dry. After our coolest summer for 19 years, a warm autumn provided ideal conditions for ripening in our red varieties, achieving excellent colour, flavour intensity and tannin maturity. The 2021 vintage will be considered a standout of the decade; remembered for complex wines with exceptional varietal expression, balance and purity, that speak of the ancient land from which they originate. With a likeness to the high-quality vintages of 1986, 2002, 2005, and 2015, all of which were mild seasons, the 2021 single-vineyard wines show an impressive potential for long-term ageing in ideal cellaring conditions.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage;
30+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED June 2024



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