



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING

2020 SASS THE TAILOR

GRAPE VARIETIES

51% pinot gris from Littlehampton in the Adelaide Hills, and 37% Semillon, 6% grenache gris and 6% gewürztraminer from the Henschke Eden Valley vineyard.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 28 February to 4 March | Alcohol: 12.0% | pH: 3.16 | Acidity: 5.66g/L

MATURATION

All varieties pre-blended prior to maturation. Aged in a combination of stainless steel, stone and seasoned French oak barriques.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale straw in colour with green-gold hues. Fragrant stone-fruit aromas of nectarine and white peach with lifted notes of gooseberry, mandarin zest and clover blossom, and underlying herbal nuances of lemon thyme, lemongrass, nettle and spicy peppercorn. The palate is rich, full and layered with fleshy stone-fruit, bright melon, and preserved cumquat and ginger flavours, balanced by minerality and texture for a long finish.

BACKGROUND

Sass the Tailor is a tribute to Henry William Sass, a tailor of Lobethal, who owned the property on Croft Road that is now the Henschke Archer's Vineyard at Lenswood. He subsequently sold the property to Frederick Croft, after whom the name Croft Ridge is named. First-generation Henschke winemaker, Johann Christian and his sons helped establish the town of Lobethal following their 90 day voyage from Kutschlau, Silesia in 1841. In 1847 Johann Christian Henschke moved his family to Krondorf in the Barossa Valley, finally settling in the Eden Valley, where we have since celebrated over 150 years of family winemaking.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Adelaide Hills – The 2020 pinot gris from Littlehampton was picked in late February and the resulting wine is finely structured, balanced and fragrant. Some reduction of yield was caused by misty rain and very cold conditions at flowering. Significant heatwaves from mid-December to late January reduced berry size, however higher than average rainfall at the end of January reduced the stress just before veraison and was followed by a cool ripening period in February.

Eden Valley - The 2020 vintage will be remembered for excellent quality wines from the Eden Valley region, though reduced yields caused by poor conditions at flowering, and an extremely dry winter, spring and summer in 2019/2020. The 2019 winter and spring resulted in the driest start to the growing season ever, in line with 1939 and 1961. Vintage was early, beginning in late February and finishing by late March. The fruit ripened in near perfect conditions, resulting in optimal and excellent wine quality (colour, aromatics, flavour and tannin maturity). Bunches were in loose, open and pristine clusters, while the yield remained quite low at about 50% of average. The 2020 wines are finely structured, balanced and fragrant.



CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage,
5+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED May 2021