



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Keyneton Estate Euphonium 2004

Grape Variety

40% shiraz, 25% cabernet sauvignon, 25% merlot and 10% cabernet franc grown in the Barossa (Eden Valley and Barossa Valley).

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 15 March-14 May | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.6 | Acidity: 6.2g/L

Maturation

Matured in 20% new and 80% seasoned French and American oak hogsheads for 20 months prior to blending and bottling.

Background

The Barossa hills village of Keyneton, pioneered by pastoralist Joseph Keynes in 1842, was a musical and cultural focus for the early settlers, and was home to the Henschke Family Brass Band and the Henschke winery. The Henschke Family Band was founded in 1888 by Paul Gotthard Henschke and later led by third-generation Paul Alfred Henschke, and featured wonderful wind instruments such as a B flat euphonium, cornet and E flat clarinet. The B flat euphonium, a large brass wind instrument, was made by the famous Zimmermann factory in Leipzig, Germany, in the late 19th century. The instruments were imported by musical entrepreneur, Carl Engel of Adelaide in the late 1900s and have been lovingly restored and remain in the Henschke family.

Vintage Description

The average winter rainfall this season was a welcome relief after 2003's fourth-worst drought in history. A relatively frost-free, wet warm and thundery spring followed, creating a natural 'greenhouse' effect. The vines grew vigorously, flowered and in general set a large crop. December was the hottest for 10 years, however at the start of 2004 the weather became mild and windy and the vines thrived under virtually no heat stress. At the start of February searing heat caused sunburn and significant crop losses. New records were broken with South Australia experiencing its hottest day ever. Fortunately March returned the region to glorious sunny days and cold dewy nights, with a couple of minor rain events, allowing the fruit to ripen under near perfect conditions. The vintage was almost as late as 2002 with good yields and excellent fruit quality.

Wine Description

Deep crimson with red hues. Sweet, fragrant aromas of Satsuma plum, blackberry and black pepper spice supported by hints of cassis, cedar and cigar box. The deeply fruited palate presents mature blue and black fruits, Dutch licorice and cassis, with layers of fine acid and fine-grained tannins for a long velvety finish.

Reviewed February 2012



Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage,
15+ years (from vintage).