

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards



Mount Edelstone 1996

Grape Variety

100% old-vine shiraz grapes grown in the Eden Valley wine region.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: Mid-April | Alcohol: 13.5% | pH: 3.47 | Acidity: 5.3g/L

Maturation

Matured in new and seasoned French and American hogsheads prior to blending and bottling.

Background

The Mount Edelstone vineyard, situated in the Eden Valley, was planted in 1912 by Ronald Angas, a descendant of George Fife Angas, who founded South Australia. Unusual for its time, the vineyard was planted solely to shiraz in ancient 55-million-year-old soils which are deep red-brown clay-loam to clay, resulting in low yields from nearly 96-year-old drygrown ungrafted vines. First bottled as a single-vineyard wine in 1952, it became recognised as one of Australia's greatest shiraz wines.

Vintage Description

The 1996 Eden Valley vintage was preceded by an average winter rainfall (after two drought years). A mild spring provided excellent flowering conditions and a mild, cool but windy summer allowed above average yields. Autumn was also cool and dry, providing an exceptionally long, slow ripening period which was very good for flavour development. An exceptional vintage in yield and quality.

Wine Description

Brick red in colour. Lifted aromas of spicy plum, dark cherry and anise with savoury, earthy nuances of tar, clove and mint. The palate is beautifully layered with sweet fruit and savoury spice, with velvety tannins and great length.

Cellaring Potential

Exceptional vintage, 25+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed April 2008