



HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2023 INNES VINEYARD

GRAPE VARIETY

100% pinot gris grown by the Innes family at Littlehampton in the Adelaide Hills.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 22 March | Alcohol: 13% | pH: 3.10 | Acidity: 5.9g/L

MATURATION

Fermented in stainless steel and held on lees in tank for 6 months with regular stirring to build complexity.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale gold with green hues. Delicate aromas of almond blossom, white rose petals, honeysuckle, jasmine, orange and ground ginger are entwined with white peach and subtle notes of candied fennel and musk. A rich and vibrant palate of nectarine, poached pear, nutmeg, cardamom and hazelnut, balanced by crisp acidity and a long lingering finish.

BACKGROUND

The Adelaide Hills has an altitude ranging from 400-600m and rainfall of around 700-1000mm. The soils of sandy loam overlying weathered shale and clay provide excellent conditions for viticulture, which was first established in the Adelaide Hills in 1839 by John Barton Hack near Mount Barker. Littlehampton lies on the eastern side of the Adelaide Hills, just 5km from Mount Barker, and has a unique aspect for superlative pinot gris. This wine is named as a tribute to the Innes family, dedicated growers of the Innes Vineyard Pinot Gris for over 25 years. Pinot gris, called tokay d'Alsace in France, grauburgunder in Germany and pinot grigio in Italy, has its origins in France and has become a highly regarded variety around the world.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Winter rainfall was back to average following a comparatively dry 2021/2022 season, with a wet August and September. Cold conditions delayed budburst, but October saw rapid shoot growth. November was exceedingly wet with over three times the average rainfall across the Adelaide Hills. Continued wet weather saturated the soil, posing challenges for vineyard access and increasing disease pressure. Development of downy mildew infections in the pre-flowering bunches caused some damage, but ideal flowering conditions in mid-December resulted in good set and a moderate crop level. Veraison began in the last week of February, one of the latest on record. The 2023 pinot gris from Littlehampton was picked in the third week of March, the latest harvest since 2006. The resulting wine shows extraordinary flavour with excellent balance, aromatics and a long, lingering finish.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage;
10+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED November 2023