



# HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



## 2016 TAPPA PASS

### GRAPE VARIETY

100% shiraz from up to 70-year-old, low-yielding vines grown in the Barossa (Eden Valley and Barossa Valley).

### TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 2 - 11 March | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.37 | Acidity: 6.95g/L

### MATURATION

Matured in 19% new and 81% seasoned French hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

### WINE DESCRIPTION

Very deep crimson with purple hues. Ripe blueberry, spiced Satsuma plum and blackberry coulis, with complexing aromas of cedar, star anise, roast meat and Thai basil. The palate is rich and complex, with layers of sweet-fruited blueberry and plum flavours, showing great purity, depth and structure. Fine, encompassing, velvety tannins glide along with the plush fruit, finishing with wonderful length and lingering flavours of plum skin and black pepper.

### BACKGROUND

The Barossa has a core of traditional growers of Lutheran descent dating back five generations, staunchly continuing the traditions of their forebears. Occasionally, one or two parcels of fruit of overwhelming quality come over the weighbridge; this is such an example. Up to 70 year old, low-yielding vines are growing in low-fertility Neoproterozoic soils more than 542 million years old, ranging from terra rossa to red-brown earths. The fully ripe, black shiraz grapes were sourced from two grower vineyards in Tappa Pass and Light Pass, and were vinified in traditional open-top fermenters.

### VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2016 vintage began with well below-average winter rainfall, followed by a warm and dry spring, which enhanced flowering and set to give average to above-average yield potential. Low disease pressure was maintained by one of the hottest Decembers on record, though temperatures cooled down in the New Year and rainfall around veraison in late January brought relief to the dry-grown, old-vine Eden Valley vineyards. This was followed by further rainfall in early March which eased the stress on all varieties. The fruit matured with an earlier harvest, as predicted due to an early Easter. Open, light and airy vine canopies allowed for good flavour, sugar and colour and mature tannins to develop at harvest, which was overall characterised by average yields but very high quality.

### ACCOLADES

2018 Barossa Wine Show - Silver Medal

### CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage,  
25+ years (from vintage).

**REVIEWED** November 2018