



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Mount Edelstone 2007

Grape Variety

100% 95-year-old single-vineyard shiraz grapes grown in the Eden Valley wine region.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 16 March-3 April | Alcohol: 14% | pH: 3.56 | Acidity: 6.6g/L

Maturation

Matured in 76% French (66% new, 34% seasoned) and 24% new American hogsheads for 21 months 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 540-million-year-old soils which are deep red-brown clay-loam to clay, resulting in low yields from nearly 100-year-old dry-grown ungrafted vines. First bottled as a single-vineyard wine in 1952, it has become recognised as one of Australia's greatest shiraz wines.

Vintage Description

The 2007 vintage shaped up to be another high quality year but with significantly reduced yields in Eden Valley. Despite an early winter break, rainfall during winter and spring was the worst for years in the lead-up to flowering. There was significant spring frost damage in Eden Valley, with yield losses of 20-25%, compounded by the drought and lack of subsoil moisture, with overall losses of 50%. Brief heat waves occurred during January; otherwise, it was mild and dry. At the end of January a tropical air mass connected with a cold front to bring good rains to the agricultural areas of South Australia, with flooding in the north. The 70mm rainfall fell steadily over four days, coinciding with veraison, which freshened up the vine canopy to assist with ripening the fruit for harvest. February was recorded as the hottest for 100 years, which brought the already reduced crop to an earlier ripening phase.

Wine Description

Deep crimson with violet hues. Complex, fragrant aromas of plum, blackberry, spicy sage and pepper with hints of vanilla and cedar. The sweet, lush, intensely fruited palate is fleshy in texture with beautiful depth and structure, elegant fine, velvety tannins and a long finish.



Cellaring Potential

Great vintage,
15+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed January 2010

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