

HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

HENSCHK HENSCHKE Johann's Garden BAROSSA VALLEY WINE OF AUSTRALIA 750ml

Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage, 15+ years (from vintage).

Johann's Garden 2010

Grape Variety 66% grenache, 26% mataro and 8% shiraz grapes grown in the Barossa Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 9 March-16 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.45 | Acidity: 6.3g/L

Maturation

Grenache, mataro and shiraz vinified separately. Matured in seasoned French hogsheads for 12 months prior to blending and bottling.

Background

Named as a tribute to the early Barossa Lutheran pioneers, many of whom carried the first name of *Johann*. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant that the many generations that followed rejoiced in the riches of their prudent efforts. Barossa growers traditionally referred to their vineyard as their garden, from the German *weingarten*. This blend is just one of those blessings. The traditions and culture have survived to this day, including the winemaking techniques used in this grenache blend. It is produced from low-yielding, old, gnarled, dry-grown bush and trellised vines on limestone soils from selected vineyards.

Vintage Description

The 2010 growing season was preceded by above average winter rainfall. Spring was mild with little frost damage and gave us an even budburst. The weather remained cold and wet through spring which held back growth until a two-week high 30s heat wave in November affected flowering and fruit set. Spring rains continued into early summer right through until mid-December, making it the wettest year since 2005. The vines responded to the heat and grew vigorously until early January, developing lush canopies, but bunch development suffered as a result.

A roller-coaster ride of heat spikes and cool changes continued through a warm summer with occasional thunderstorms. The vines went through veraison a week earlier than 2009. Lower yields coupled with the mild ripening period resulted in concentrated fruit. Vintage began a week earlier than 2009 and was in full swing by mid-February. The white vintage was all but finished a month later, while the red harvest continued with deeply coloured, well-balanced grapes being picked during mild, dry conditions until the end of April.

Wine Description

Deep crimson with violet hues. Classic sweet aromas of ripe plum, raspberry and cherry are punctuated by hints of nutmeg, anise and cedar. The palate shows layers of ripe red fruits and spices, and is rich and textured with big velvety tannins and a long, savoury finish.

Reviewed July 2012