



HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2019 JOSEPH HILL GEWÜRZTRAMINER

GRAPE VARIETY

100% gewürztraminer grown organically and biodynamically on Stephen and Prue's Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills and the Henschke Eden Valley vineyard.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 28 February | Alcohol: 12.5% | pH: 3.28 | Acidity: 5.6g/L | Residual Sugar: 4.2g/L

MATURATION

Fermented in tank and bottled post-vintage to preserve the delicate aromatic fruit characters.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale straw in colour with green-gold hues. Intense and lifted aromas of rose petal, frangipani, lychee, musk, passionfruit husk and anise are wild and evocative. A full-flavoured, textural palate of tropical guava and lychee with hints of jasmine and lemon grass is balanced by talc-like acidity and a long, pure finish.

BACKGROUND

The traminer grape originated in the Tramin region of the north-east of Italy and has been grown for centuries in France and Germany. The altitude, cool climate and sandy loam and shale soils of the Lenswood vineyard are brilliantly suited to this variety. Gewürztraminer planted on the steep south-facing Lenswood slopes lends beautiful aromatics and complexity to the rose petal flavours of the Eden Valley. Named in tribute to Joseph Hill Thyer who pioneered the first vines on this property in the early 1900s.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Vintage 2019 provided generally good growing conditions for the Adelaide Hills, with three notable events: the coldest September on record, the wettest November since 2005 and a mini heat wave on the cusp of January/February that the Adelaide Hills rode out extremely well due to good canopy cover. A rapid progression in berry maturation was kickstarted by the Harvest Moon falling right on the spring Equinox, with all varieties ripening at the same time. Hand-harvesting was done in three weeks, bookended by the early sparkling and late red varieties. Yields were down by 20-50 due to 'hen and chicken' (berries of different sizes) from the cold, wet period during flowering, however quality was exceedingly good in both white and red varieties as a result of better ripening conditions.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage,
15+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED October 2019