



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Johann's Garden 2006

Grape Variety

68% grenache, 17% mourvèdre and 15% shiraz grapes grown in the Barossa Valley.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 22 March-5 May | Alcohol: 15.5% | pH: 3.45 | Acidity: 6.4g/L

Maturation

Grenache, mourvèdre 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 wine-making 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 2006 vintage shaped up as another high quality year but with only average yields in the Barossa. After a late break in mid June 2005, winter and spring rains were some of the best for years in the lead-up to flowering in early summer. Some varieties such as riesling and shiraz suffered more than others from poor set, leading to 'hen and chicken'. While there was some damage in Eden Valley from frost, this had only minor impact on the overall yield; however, yields in most varieties were down by 15-20%. The summer was mild with southerly winds, reminiscent of 2002. Brief heat waves occurred in late January and mid February but were early enough not to affect quality, with only minor sunburn on exposed fruit. Whites were nearly all picked by the end of March, an unusual situation.

Wine Description

Deep garnet with violet hues. Exotic spicy plum and cherry aromas with complex notes of lavender, cardamom, sage and mace. A ripe, fleshy palate packed with dark fruits, spices and herbs; textured and layered with velvety fine tannins and a long finish.



Cellaring Potential

Very good vintage,
10+ years (from vintage).

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