



## Hill of Roses Shiraz 2006

### Grape Variety

100% shiraz grown on Henschke's Hill of Grace vineyard in the Eden Valley wine region.

### Technical Details

Harvest Date: 29 March | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.54 | Acidity: 6.1g/L

### Maturation

Matured in new French oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to bottling.

### Background

This wine is named as a tribute to Johann Gottlieb Rosenzweig, one of the early Barossa Lutheran pioneers who settled at Parrot Hill in the Eden Valley. Their toil, perseverance and conservatism in hardship has meant the many generations that followed have rejoiced in the riches of those efforts. Shiraz, growing on the fertile slopes in the Eden Valley region, is just one of those blessings. The wine was produced from a small selection of low-yielding dry-grown shiraz vines from the Hill of Grace vineyard, named the Post Office block, that were a mere 20 years old and too young to be considered for inclusion in Hill of Grace. The quality of the grapes from this selection produced a wine that was too good to be declassified and warranted a separate bottling and limited release. The Post Office ruins are on the land that used to be Rosenzweig property, the Rosenzweig name translating from German to mean 'rose twig'.

### Vintage Description

The 2006 vintage shaped up as another high quality year but with only average yields in Eden Valley. 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 a 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.

### Wine Description

Deep crimson red in colour. Sweet, complex ethereal aromas of juicy dark plums and blackberries with a hint of bay leaf and dark cedary oak. The palate is rich and deeply fruited with blackcurrant and Thai plum flavours beautifully complemented by smoky briar, sage and chocolate/mocha nuances, grainy tannins and a long, luscious finish.

### Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage,  
20+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed November 2011