



# HENSCHKE

*Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards*

## Johann's Garden 2013

### Grape Variety

70% grenache, 25% mataro and 5% shiraz grapes grown in the Barossa Valley.

### Technical Details

Harvest Date: 25 February-16 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.5 | Acidity: 6.0g/L

### Maturation

Grenache, mataro and shiraz vinified separately. Matured in seasoned French hogsheads for 10 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 lead-up to the 2013 vintage saw an early onset of summer, with occasional thunderstorms and only four heat spikes, into the 40s, over summer. A cooler than average January followed by a warm February, brought the predicted early vintage even further forward. Even after the *dry-pecta* of winter/spring/summer the word from the winery floor was that it would be another great Eden Valley riesling year, followed up with some great old-vine shiraz. Fortunately, a desperately needed 16mm of rain came, the first for nearly six months, at the beginning of March to help the dry-grown vines struggle through to full maturity. The roller-coaster weather ride continued through March with almost weekly cycles of hot and cold. Cool drizzly weather at the end of March nearly brought the harvest to a halt, but with a return to the Indian summer conditions in early April, it gave us a chance to get the late varieties in Eden Valley over the line, predominantly cabernet sauvignon and merlot, returning us to another great vintage of average yields and fabulous rock solid quality.

### Wine Description

Crimson in colour. Dark and brooding aromas of ripe plums, raspberries and blueberries are followed by attractive spicy notes of mace, anise, cinnamon and black pepper. The nose perfectly supports the palate that is equally rich and concentrated with a balance of fine acidity and velvety tannins providing complexity and length.

Reviewed March 2014



### Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage,  
15+ years (from vintage).