



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Muscat of Tappa Pass 2014

Grape Variety

Produced from fully ripened muscat blanc grapes grown at Tappa Pass in the Eden Valley region.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 20-21 March | Alcohol: 10.5% | pH: 3.2 | Acidity: 7.3g/L

Maturation

Muscat blanc grapes are fermented cool to enhance the floral muscat aromas, delicate flavours and 8% residual sweetness.

Vintage Description

The 2014 moon cycles put Easter quite late in the season and so the expectation of a late harvest prevailed until South Australia experienced its record number of heat days over 40C in January, culminating in the worst bushfire in Eden Valley in living memory. This ended in the wettest February in 44 years, with between 115 and 150mm of rain, all in 48 hours. Fortunately, Eden Valley and the Adelaide Hills were still in veraison, which allowed the quenching rain to rebalance the fruit, particularly in the older dry-grown vineyards. The yields appeared depressingly minuscule, due to a severe black frost in spring and cold windy weather during flowering in early December. Early picks of semillon and shiraz after the heat wave were in response to vine stress. The change to mild autumnal weather in late February after the rains allowed for a focus on other early vintage varieties, riesling in Eden Valley and pinot noir at Lenswood. Mild weather with cold dewy mornings and windy days prevailed. Disease pressure increased as March became colder and wetter, which seemed to change to a winter pattern after the equinox. It was indeed a late vintage and also resulted in one of the longest. The picking of Eden Valley cabernet and Lenswood merlot brought the season to a close at the beginning of May, where skilled vineyard teams played a critical role by hand selecting and picking the best quality fruit during the onset of rain and cold wintery weather. In summary, a challenging season with excellent quality but very low yields.

Wine Description

Pale straw with gold hues. A sweet, fragrant bouquet of honey, apricot nectar, rosewater and tropical florals with a hint of ginger spice and musk stick. The palate shows layers of honeyed sweet fruits, apricot nectar and citrus, balanced beautifully with fine acidity, providing purity, texture and excellent length.



Cellaring Potential

Excellent vintage,
5+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed September 2015

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