HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING

2020 JOHANN'S GARDEN



GRAPE VARIETY

80% grenache and 20% mataro grown in the Barossa Valley.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 13 - 30 March | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.53 | Acidity: 5.0g/L

MATURATION

Grenache and mataro vinified separately. Matured in seasoned French hogsheads for 10 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Medium garnet with garnet hues. Vibrant aromas of raspberry compote, red currant, plum and black cherry, with a subtle pink grapefruit lift, crushed flowering herbs, white pepper and hints of anise and mace. The palate is juicy and plush, with red currant, spiced cherry and plum carried by mature, velvety tannins and well balanced acidity providing length and freshness.

BACKGROUND

Named as a tribute to the early Silesian pioneers of the Barossa, 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. This blend is just one of those blessings. The traditions and culture have survived to this day, including the traditional winemaking techniques of open-top fermentation used in this grenache blend. It is produced from low-yielding Barossa Survivor Vines, equal or greater than 70 years old. These gnarled, dry-grown bush and trellised vines are grown on limestone soils from selected vineyards in the Barossa Valley. Barossa growers traditionally referred to their vineyard as their 'garden', from the German *weingarten*.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2020 vintage will be remembered for excellent quality wines from the Eden Valley, Barossa Valley and Adelaide Hills, albeit a meagre production due to reduced yields caused by a number of poor conditions at flowering and the extremely dry winter, spring and summer of 2019/2020. The 2019 winter and spring resulted in the driest start to the growing season ever, in line with 1939 and 1961. Growth in early spring was weaker due to a hotter than average October. November was a troubling month with some frosty, wet and windy conditions during flowering. Bunch size was normal, although with few berries having set, it resulted in very open clusters. Significant heatwaves from mid-December to the end of January reduced shoot growth and berry size, however at the end of the month around 40mm of rain fell, alleviating the stress just before veraison, followed by a cool ripening period in February with just three days over 30°C. Vintage was early, beginning in late February and finishing by early April. The grapes ripened in near perfect conditions, resulting in optimal and excellent wine quality (colour, aromatics, flavours and tannin maturity). Bunches were loose and pristine, while the yield remained quite low, at about 10% of average. The 2020 white wines are finely structured, balanced and fragrant. The red wines are intense in colour, exceptionally fragrant, spicy and well-structured.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Excellent vintage,
10+ years (from vintage).

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