HENSCHKE

OVER 150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING



2018 APPLE TREE BENCH

GRAPE VARIETY

55% shiraz and 45% cabernet sauvignon grown in the Barossa (Eden Valley and Barossa Valley regions).

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Harvest Date: 23 March – 19 April | Alcohol: 14.5% | pH: 3.55 | Acidity: 6.05g/L

MATURATION

Matured in 32% new and 68% seasoned (63% French, 37% American) oak hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Deep ruby with bright ruby hues. Fragrant aromas of Satsuma plum, blackberry, blueberry, cassis and violets, revealing sage, bay leaf, liquorice, Dutch cocoa and earthy tones, with hints of mint and cedar. The palate has great structural definition with complex and layered ripe bramble fruit, spicy white pepper, cedar undertones and textural, velvety tannins for a long finish.

BACKGROUND

The Apple Tree Bench pays tribute to the farming traditions of Johann Christian Henschke, who settled in the high-country of the Barossa's Eden Valley wine region in 1862. The Henschke family's early farm life revolved around the apple tree bench, where the produce from the farm was placed before being stored in the cool stone cellar. This wine is produced from ungrafted low-yielding Eden Valley shiraz planted on ancient red-brown earths and blended with cabernet sauvignon growing on the deep alluvial soils of the Barossa Valley. A limited-production traditional Barossa shiraz cabernet blend.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

A moderately wet winter combined with average spring conditions meant that vines grew well in the mild weather. Ideal flowering conditions in late spring/early summer lead to the potential for near-average yields. Late December became warm and dry and assured for healthy canopies with low disease pressure. The summer months of January and February were typically hot and dry but extreme heat periods were shorter than in recent memory, characterised instead by well above-average overnight temperatures. March and April provided the light and warmth which lead to full and balanced maturity being achieved across all grape varieties. All in all, the 2018 vintage will be considered a standout of this decade, fittingly so in the year we celebrated our 150th anniversary of family winemaking

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Exceptional vintage;
20+ years (from vintage).

REVIEWED July 2021

ACCOLADES

2021 Barossa Wine Show – Gold Medal
2020 Barossa Wine Show – Silver Medal
2020 Royal Adelaide Wine Show – Silver Medal

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