



HENSCHKE

Exceptional wines from outstanding vineyards

Mount Edelstone 2013

Grape Variety

100% 101 year-old single-vineyard shiraz grown in the Mount Edelstone vineyard in the Eden Valley wine region, using organic and biodynamic practices.

Technical Details

Harvest Date: 5-9 March | *Alcohol:* 14.5% | *pH:* 3.59 | *Acidity:* 6.1g/L

Maturation

Matured in 81% French and 19% American (34% new, 66% seasoned) hogsheads for 18 months prior to blending and bottling.

Background

The Mount Edelstone vineyard, situated in the Eden Valley, was planted in 1912 by Ronald Angas, a descendant of George Fife Angas, who founded South Australia. Unusual for its time, it was planted solely to shiraz. The ancient 500-million-year-old soils on the vineyard are deep red-brown clay-loam to clay, resulting in low yields from over 100-year-old dry-grown, ungrafted centenarian vines. First bottled as a single-vineyard wine in 1952, it became recognised as one of the greatest shiraz wines in Australia.

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 a return to the Indian summer conditions in early April gave us a chance to get the late varieties in Eden Valley over the line for another great vintage of average yields and fabulous rock solid quality.

Wine Description

Deep rich crimson in colour. Succulent blue fruits, blackcurrant paste, blackberry and spiced plum aromas are interwoven with savoury Dutch liquorice, sage, cracked black pepper and cedar. The palate has lovely concentration, with layers of plum, blackcurrant, blackberry and liquorice, finishing fleshy and well-structured, with rolling chalky tannins.

Cellaring Potential

Great vintage, 20+ years (from vintage).

Reviewed July 2017

