



Heggies Vineyard Riesling 2004

The Heggies Vineyard was purchased in 1971 by Wyndham Hill Smith from his great friend, Colin Heggie. The label portrays Colin astride his horse Jack at sunset, surveying the first plantings in the fledgling vineyard.

Heggies is a single vineyard in Eden Valley where the 'terroir' is encouraged to produce the distinctive Heggies wine styles. The soil is a thin layer of grey sandy loam over clay and decomposed rock - and vines compete vigorously for moisture and nutrient. An altitude of 550 m above sea level, 787 mm of annual rain, plus innovative viticultural practises produce wines of full flavour and balance.



WINEMAKING / VITICULTURE

The winter of 2003 saw excellent winter rains and the breaking of a long drought with plenty of water running into the soils and dams. Conditions during the growing season were mild, and big crops flowered and set. There was a period of hot weather in early February which Heggies Vineyard rode out easily. The rest of the days to harvest were sunny and mild with cool nights producing Riesling grapes of style and substance.

Flavour in the 2004 Riesling grapes expressed itself early. Picked in the cool of the night and swiftly transported to our winery, the grapes are given minimal handling and only free run juice is used in the making of Heggies Vineyard Riesling. The juice is fermented at a cool temperature using aromatic yeasts and blended early at the completion of vintage. As in 2003, the grapes had such perfect fruit/acid balance that the wine was able to be made without any extra acid additions.

Pale straw colour with a delicate green tint, Heggies Vineyard Riesling 2004 displays intense aromas of citrus blossom and other white flowers. The palate is crisp and delicious with flavours of limes and fruit zest. Heggies Vineyard Riesling always shows a wonderful mineral edge, as though you are tasting hints of the crushed quartz which is the underbed of much of the vineyard. The tight structure and natural acidity of this wine will see it age gracefully well into the next decade.

WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

"Heggies Vineyard is tremendously challenging, an exciting opportunity for any winemaker. When working with a grape variety like Riesling, we try to capture the flavour and balance of the grapes in their purest essence. The 2004 Heggies Vineyard Riesling continues the use of the Stelvin closure to ensure the wine's fresh varietal characters remain, as intended, throughout its long life."

Peter Gambetta, Heggies Vineyard Winemaker

VINTAGE INFORMATION

Vintage	2004
Region	Eden Valley
Winemaker	Peter Gambetta
Harvested	25 March to 8 April 2004
Alc/Vol	12.5%
Total Acid	6.9 g/L
pH	3.06
Residual Sugar	2.87 g/L
Cellaring	now up to 10 years

