



Henschke

The Henschke Croft Chardonnay is an elegant and refined wine from the Adelaide Hills, showcasing the sophisticated balance and complexity of cool-climate Chardonnay. This wine reveals an exquisite harmony of fruit, acidity, and oak, a testament to the meticulous craftsmanship of Henschke's winemaking tradition.

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Croft Chardonnay 2019

Eden Valley, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The Henschke Croft Chardonnay is sourced from the Lenswood Vineyard in the Adelaide Hills, a region renowned for its cool-climate wines. The vineyard, perched at an elevation of 550 meters (1,804 feet), enjoys higher rainfall and humidity at crucial times of the year, along with cooler temperatures that help retain high natural acidity in the grapes. **The soils are primarily well-drained sandy loam over medium clay interspersed with shale fragments overlying a shale bedrock**, which contributes to the unique terroir and mineral complexity of the wine.

The Henschke family purchased the Lenswood property in 1981. **The chardonnay vineyard consists of seven different clones** and is named after Frederick Croft, an orchardist who settled on a neighboring property in 1938. The combination of altitude, soil diversity, and careful vineyard management ensures the production of high-quality grapes that reflect the distinctive characteristics of the Adelaide Hills .

Winemaking

The Henschke Croft Chardonnay is made from **100% Chardonnay** grapes, hand-harvested to ensure optimal quality. **Fermentation occurs in barrels**, with partial malolactic fermentation to enhance the wine's texture and complexity. The wine is aged for **10 months in French oak** hogsheads, with 18% new oak and 82% seasoned oak, striking a balance between oak influence and the natural fruit flavors of the grapes. This method preserves the wine's fresh acidity while adding subtle oak nuances that complement its rich, fruit-driven profile .

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Chardonnay



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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Pale straw with green hues.
- **Aroma:** Lifted and fragrant aromas of cut pear, white peach, nectarine, citrus, and custard apple, supported by baking spices and toasted cashew.
- **Palate:** The palate shows richness and finesse with flavors of ripe peach and pear providing a fleshy, textural quality, complemented by overtones of crème brûlée and oatmeal. These characters are beautifully balanced by fresh citrus acidity and subtle oak nuances, giving the wine depth and finishing with incredible length.

Did you know?

The Lenswood Vineyard, where Henschke Croft Chardonnay is grown, was purchased by Stephen and Prue Henschke in 1981. The vineyard's unique terroir and careful management practices have allowed Henschke to produce some of the finest cool-climate Chardonnays in Australia, showcasing the family's commitment to excellence in winemaking .

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Steamed Pomfret Fish with Local Pipis and Sea Vegetables in a Light Jellyfish Tamarind Broth:** The wine's fresh citrus acidity and complex flavors complement the delicate and savory notes of this dish.
- **Roast Chicken with Lemon and Thyme:** The rich, textural quality of the wine pairs beautifully with the savory and aromatic profile of roast chicken.
- **Creamy Mushroom Risotto:** The wine's subtle oak nuances and vibrant acidity enhance the earthy and creamy flavors of a mushroom risotto.

Decanter (DCT) : 94 Points (2019)



Mild mannered but with firm sinewy muscle that allows this delicate fruit to speak strongly. It's a long single note on a viola: poise and precision through a clean white peach belly with bright lemon at its core. Understated elegance. (4/2021)

Robert Parker (RP) : 93 Points (2019)



Although marked by accents of toasted grain and nuts, the focus of the excellent 2019 Croft Chardonnay is on the wonderfully pristine white peach and pineapple fruit. Medium to full-bodied and joyfully generous on the palate, it's focused and streamlined at the same time, flowing easily into a long, citrus-inflected and silken finish. The best Croft Chardonnay to date? (3/2021)



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Croft Chardonnay 2019



James Suckling (JS) : 93 Points (2019)

This is looking attractively pure and fresh with aromas of sliced pear and white peach, as well as apple and lemon. The palate has crystalline acidity, set amid ripe pears and melon and a hint of savory nougat. Drink or hold. (5/2021)



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