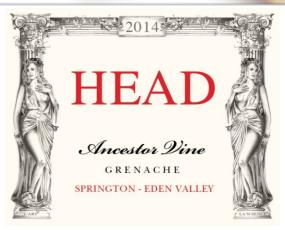


## 2014 HEAD 'Ancestor Vine' Grenache Springton - Eden Valley



Rainfall: 358ml (April 14' to March 15', Ave. 483ml)

Vineyards: 420m elevation, farmed sustainably with organic principles.

Varietals: 95% Grenache, 5% Mourvedre

Age of Vines: 159 years.

Soil/Rock: Brown/grey sandy loam over yellow clays.

Ave. Yields: < 1.0 t/acre

Vinification: Wooden vat, indigenous yeast, 25% whole-bunch retention,

two week ferment, hand-plunging & pumpover daily.

Maturation: Older Demi-muid for 12 months.

Bottling: April 15' Acidity: 5.5 g/l

Alcohol: 14.5% (8.3 Standard Drinks/750mL)

Planted in 1858, this 'Ancestor Vine' vineyard sits near Springton on brown and grey sandy loam over yellow clays. 25% whole-bunch fermented in a wooden vat, no crushing or temperature control, natural yeasts, hand plunged and foot trodden twice daily for 3 weeks. Racked once during elevage of 12 months in old thick staved 600L demi-muid with a small addition of old vine mourvedre for balance. Made with complete respect to the fruit and aiming above the great CNDP in terms of quality and longevity. Bottled unfined and unfiltered under stelvin capsule.

Deep red with a burgundy like appearance. Aromas of rhubarb, raspberry, pink musk, Turkish delight and candied orange peel. Full bodied and supremely textured with layers of sweet red fruit flavours. Dense, long & chewy tannins that coat the mouth endlessly. One for the patient cellar. Drink now or up to 30 years. 14.5% Alcohol.

Contemplative wine this one, and much like grand Pinot Noir, of which it shares a certain weight and perfume, it really evolves and shifts around with time in glass. Turkish delight perfume dusted with pepper and dusty exotic spices, raspberry and ripe strawberry, raw almonds, pears poached in red wine studded with clove and cinnamon, and a host of other things, real or imagined. Light to medium bodied, rippling with tone and muscle, funk and spice, slaty tannin and dryness, then that kiss of red fruits and perfume. It's pretty, and tough at the same time. Takes some time and effort to get to know, though certainly it's worth the effort. Quite outside the mainstream of Australian wine too, which is no bad thing. Real vinosity and verve.

Gary Walsh - Wine Front, 96Pts

**Huon Hooke - 95Pts** 

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