



# ASHBROOK ESTATE

## 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot

### TASTING NOTES

Ashbrook Estate is one of the oldest established wineries in the Margaret River region located in the heart of Wilyabrup. Truly family owned and operated since 1975, all wines are handpicked and crafted from only estate grown fruit. All processing, winemaking, bottling and packaging are done on site using the Estate's own private facilities. 2015 sees Ashbrook Estate complete its 37<sup>th</sup> Vintage, one of only 5 Margaret River wineries to do so!



#### 2012 VINTAGE

The warmer than average weather conditions in December were handled well by the vines due to excellent spring growing conditions with good rainfall. Abundant Marri blossom leading into vintage reduced the necessity to apply protective bird netting with weather conditions during the berry development period providing near perfect ripening conditions for all varieties.

#### VINEYARD

The "Old Cab" Houghton clone cuttings were collected from the Agricultural Department 'Source Block' in the Swan Valley and planted in 1976. Due to its ultimate suitability to the region and increased demand, the "Young Cab" was planted in 1998 from the original vines on the Estate. The "Old Cab" was originally all VSP grown but converted to cane pruned, with +90% Lyre trellis in 1998 with immediate and brilliant results. Coupled with the application of composted mulch, for the past 8 years, the Vineyard shows remarkable health and balance producing super premium fruit year in year out.

#### WINEMAKING

Hand-picked over 2 weeks the berries are cold soaked, gently plunged and temperature controlled in 4 tonne parcels in open fermenters for gentle and full extraction. The wine is matured in 100% French oak barriques for 2 years, then further stored in our underground climate controlled cellar for 18 months before release. The inviting nose bursts with raspberry jelly crystal and sweet violet aromas. Ripe red berries, cherry plum fruit leather and hints of cassis saturate the palate with fine grained tannins creating a succulent, velvety mouthfeel. The extended maturation in super premium French oak barriques imparts an elegant spiciness and the subtle, leafy nuances typical of old vine Wilyabrup Cabernet, adds to the wines complexity. Ashbrook Estate has made this traditional Bordeaux-style blend since 1984.

#### REGION

Wilyabrup, Margaret River

#### VARIETY

Cabernet Sauvignon	77%
Merlot	10%
Petit Verdot	7%
Cabernet Franc	6%

#### HARVEST DATE

14<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012

#### CLOSURE

Stelvin+

#### TECHNICAL DATA

Alc	14.5% v/v
TA	7.0g/l
Residual Sugar	0.5g/l
pH	3.54