

EST. 1975



**ASHBROOK ESTATE**  
WILYABRUP MARGARET RIVER

# ASHBROOK ESTATE

## 2016 Petit Verdot

### 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. 2016 sees Ashbrook Estate complete its 38<sup>th</sup> Vintage, one of only 5 Margaret River wineries to do so!  
James Halliday says: "This estate is one of the quietest and highest achievers in Australia, maintaining excellent viticulture and fastidious winemaking."



#### 2016 VINTAGE

The 2016 growing season at Ashbrook was typified by warm sunny days and cool nights with no harsh weather events recorded. Three inches of rain two weeks prior to harvest gave the vines a healthy boost and resulted in no disease pressure at all due to Ashbrook's predominantly lyre trellis system. A bumper and lengthy Marri blossom also meant Silver-eye bird damage was negligible which was well received by the vineyard team after a hectic 2015 season juggling netting. All said and done the white varieties were harvested at optimum flavour ripeness. Yields were slightly below average but the quality was impeccable. An inch of rain before the red harvest was again beneficial for the vines and grapes were picked in perfect condition. Yields were of average size with the 2016 vintage characterised by flavours developing at lower sugar levels across all varieties.

#### VINEYARD

The G7V1 clone cuttings were collected from two local wineries and planted in 1998. Trained straight to our unique Lyre trellis the variety looked right at home among our other Bordeaux varieties which, not coincidentally, is where its heritage originated. Typically being blended with Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot & Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot was used to "stiffen" the mid palate however it fell out of favour in its country of origin due to its late ripening time. The beauty of the Wilyabrup climate is that we can get this variety to optimum ripeness and are therefore rewarded with an extremely unique wine.

The small straggly bunches are incredibly slow & frustrating for the pickers to hand harvest however their loose-packing of berries fairs them well viticulturally as it allows wonderful airflow through the bunch keeping disease pressure extremely low. 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

One of only 300 bottles made. Estate grown, hand harvested fruit. Unfiltered for the truest expression of variety & terroir. The latest ripening of all Bordeaux varieties, Petit Verdot thrived in this warm, sunny vintage on our open lyre trellis. Unusually delicate acid and tannin at optimal flavor development left us no choice but to create this unique and intriguing wine. A perfumed nose of violets, lilac, raspberry, cherry plum and dark chocolate precedes the elegant, supple palate of cherry plum, sweet spice, sage and dried herbs with fine, velvety tannins.

#### REGION

Wilyabrup, Margaret River

#### VARIETY

Petit Verdot 100%

#### HARVEST DATE

24<sup>th</sup> March 2016

#### TECHNICAL DATA

Alc	13.5% v/v
TA	6.4g/l
Residual Sugar	0.4g/l
pH	3.55

