

EST. 1975



ASHBROOK ESTATE
WILYABRUP MARGARET RIVER

ASHBROOK ESTATE

2017 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 38th Vintage, one of only five Margaret River wineries to do so! James Halliday AM says: "This estate is one of the quietest and highest achievers in Australia, maintaining excellent viticulture and fastidious winemaking."

2017 VINTAGE

The 2017 growing season at Ashbrook was typified by warm sunny days and cool nights. A hail event in early Spring reduced the volume of the early varieties like Chardonnay but intensified characteristics. Once again disease pressure was minimal due to Ashbrook's predominantly lyre trellis system. A bumper and lengthy Marri blossom meant Silver-eye bird damage was negligible for the earlier varieties however all nets were unrolled for the later varieties as it unfortunately didn't carry through. All said and done the white varieties were harvested at optimum flavour ripeness. Yields were back to our traditional volumes but most importantly the quality was impeccable. The 2017 wines will have lower alcohol levels due to the lack of any heat waves before or during vintage so the result is wines with an elegance and fullness, magnificent!

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 during this long, gentle ripening season on our open lyre trellis. Unusually delicate acid and tannin with beautiful 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

21st April 2017

TECHNICAL DATA

Alc	13.5% v/v
TA	5.9g/l
pH	3.57

