

A U T U M N 2 0 2 0

ASHBROOK ESTATE NEWS

WILYABRUP
MARGARET RIVER
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



2018 Chardonnay – sunlight in a glass

If there's one wine that has been thoroughly appreciated during this uncertain time it's our Ashbrook Estate 2018 Chardonnay. Quietly filtering its way through Australia via our valued loyal customers, the feedback has been delightful and uplifting. Although crafted in the same style for 39 years, subtle refinements to our oak selection and winemaking are shining through. Exceptional value for money from an incredible Margaret River vintage and it's only getting better.

Also in this issue:

2018 Cabernet Franc

A very pretty first for Ashbrook Estate

Bottling 2020

Exciting new vintage unwooded white and rosé wines

2018 Semillon review

With Rockpool Wine Director Richard Healy

Welcome!

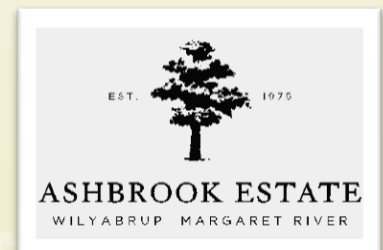
To Ashbrook Estate's Autumn 2020 Newsletter!

We are counting our blessings in what has been and still is a difficult time for many – thank you to our loyal customers and business partners for their ongoing support.

One of the benefits of living and working in the same place is that we have continued to go about our business without pause. Through two significant storms that wreaked havoc with the district's roads and power supply we managed to successfully bottle our 2020 unwooded white and rosé wines.

Now, as our vineyard quietly puts itself to sleep for the winter, we look forward to WA and Australia revamping with that true Aussie spirit.

Enjoy the read!



2018 Cabernet Franc

A special varietal release from one of Margaret River's best vintages



Cabernet Franc is predominantly recognized as a blending variety in many famous, Bordeaux-style reds but can be successfully vinified alone. Widely accepted as originating in Basque country in the Western Pyrenees, Cabernet Franc is a parent of Cabernet Sauvignon (Cabernet Franc x Sauvignon Blanc). As in Bordeaux, the variety is slightly earlier ripening than Cabernet Sauvignon in Margaret River and imparts Cabernet aromas and flavours with a Pinot Noir-esque palate weight. In 2018, for the first time at Ashbrook, three barriques of this straight varietal wine were made. Every bunch of grapes was harvested by a family member, aged between three and 70 years old, put over a sorting table, whole-berry fermented and matured for 18 months in premium French oak. Cellaring underground for another year post-bottling has produced a fragrant, juicy, charming wine. It has a softer structure than its progeny with raspberry, cassis, sweet leaf and subtle pencil shavings. The palate has minimal oak influence but remains tactile and focused. An elegant example of this variety, so inviting and easy to drink. Due for release in July 2020 as the second wine (after the Petit Verdot) crafted for our Black Label range of rare and unique vintage varietals.

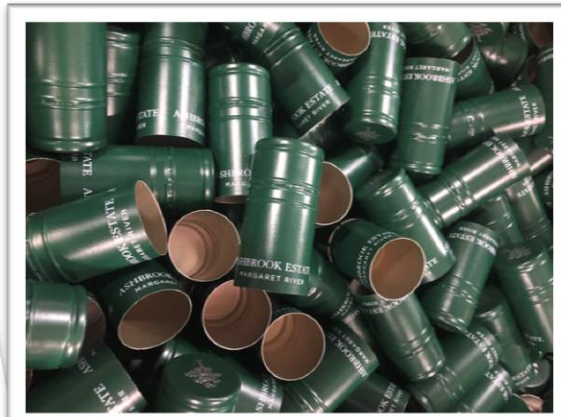


2018 Semillon

Wine Director for Rockpool Dining Group in NSW & QLD, Richard Healy reviews Ashbrook Estate 2018 Semillon

With the closure of cellar doors and restaurants over the last few months, the popularity of online wine reviews and virtual tastings has grown significantly. We are thrilled that Richard Healy, current Wine Director for Rockpool Dining Group (NSW & QLD) gave such a fun, thorough and considered review of Ashbrook Estate's 2018 Semillon. Find it on Instagram [@richard_healy](https://www.instagram.com/richard_healy). Bearing in mind Richard is by reputation a hard marker (89 is the new 95) and we were docked two points for an unfavourable NBA allegiance, we are delighted with this review. Semillon is close to our hearts and this wine is incredible value for money. Thanks Richard!





Bottling 2020!

Bottling days are the culmination of months or years of meticulous attention to detail, early mornings, long days and a lot of hard work by many people. Every effort is made to transfer that love and care into the finished product while protecting the wine's integrity and ensuring it will be safe, for eternity, in its little glass house. No pressure....

Some liken a bottling day to flying a plane – take off is a little stressful and you can feel the intensity in the cabin until the plane levels out, then there are hours of monotonous, repetitive tasks, then finally exhilaration and relief as you touch down safely with everything and everyone, intact.

Some use podcasts to get through, some use coffee, some spend most of it discussing the weekend's sport and some use it as an opportunity to pontificate about life but however you survive, the reward at the end is a bona fide bottle of precious, unreleased, new vintage wine to enjoy with your dinner that coincidentally, will go perfectly well with it.

Throughout April and May, the team at Ashbrook has bottled our 2020 Riesling, Semillon, Verdelho, Sauvignon Blanc and Rosé wines. We rate 2020 as one of our best vintages and we can't wait to share these wines with you. Due for release in September 2020.



Signing off

As pruning begins in this beautiful and fortunate part of the world it is our dearest hope that the wine community continues to support their local wineries through online sales, cellar door visits and by patronizing their favourite restaurants. Wishing everyone good health and happiness, keep on keeping on,



The team at
Ashbrook!

