

EST. 1975



**ASHBROOK ESTATE**  
WILYABRUP MARGARET RIVER

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**2019 Cabernet Sauvignon**

**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. 2019 saw Ashbrook Estate complete its 41<sup>st</sup> vintage, one of only five Margaret River wineries to do so!

*"This estate is one of the quietest and highest achievers in Australia, maintaining excellent viticulture and fastidious winemaking."*  
James Halliday AM



#### 2019 VINTAGE

For vignerons who have been in the district a while, 2018/19 will be remembered as a quintessential, mild Margaret River growing season. Temperatures were slightly cooler than the 10-year regional average from budburst all the way through to the end of ripening. Although no frost damage occurred, we estimate around 10% of our Chardonnay vines experienced a short delay in ripening due to a rare cold snap in mid-September. A timely rain event in January served to recharge the vines during the long ripening. Unlike last vintage, Red Gum blossom was scarce and the application of nets from January onwards was imperative to keep the silvereye birds at bay. As a result of the long, mild ripening, vintage started in late February, two weeks later than recent vintages, and there was no break in harvest between the whites and reds. The 2019 vintage saw good yields across all varieties, slowly ripened fruit with retained natural acidity, perfumed aromas and elegant flavour profiles, reminiscent of the 2017 vintage.

#### VINEYARD

Our "Old Cab" block *Houghton* clone cuttings were collected from the Agricultural Department 'Source Block' in the Swan Valley and planted (1976) on the gravelly uplands of Wilyabrup's Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge. Originally all dry-grown on a VSP trellis, 90% of this block was converted to a cane-pruned, lyre trellis in 1998 with immediate and brilliant results. Due to its ultimate suitability to the region and increased demand, the "Young Cab" block was also planted (1998) using cuttings from the original vines which were trained up to a cane-pruned, lyre trellis. Coupled with the application of composted mulch, the vineyard shows remarkable health and balance producing super premium fruit year in year out.

#### WINEMAKING

Grapes were hand-picked over several mornings to capture the best characteristics of each site and variety. Bunches were immediately destemmed and the berries put across our vibrating sorting table. Four-tonne parcels of pure berries were then cold soaked, inoculated with multiple yeast strains and gently plunged every three hours in temperature-controlled, open, stainless-steel fermenters. After desired extraction the wine was gently pressed off skins and completed MLF in stainless steel tanks prior to ageing in 100% premium French oak barriques (15% new) for 23 months. After blending, filtration and bottling the wine further matured in our underground, climate-controlled cellar until release. Ashbrook Estate has made this traditional Bordeaux-style blend since 1984. (VF)

#### REGION

Wilyabrup, Margaret River

#### VARIETIES

Cabernet Sauvignon 85.0%, Petit Verdot 6.7%, Cabernet Franc 4.8% and Merlot 3.5%

#### HARVEST DATES

22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

#### BOTTLING DATE

16<sup>th</sup> August 2021

#### CLOSURE

Stelvin+

#### TECHNICAL DATA

Alc 13.5% v/v  
TA 6.2g/l  
pH 3.45