

EST. 1975



ASHBROOK ESTATE  
WILYABRUP MARGARET RIVER

# ASHBROOK ESTATE

## 2020 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 grapes are handpicked and wines crafted from only Estate grown fruit. All processing, winemaking, bottling and packaging are done on site using Ashbrook's private facilities.

2020 saw Ashbrook Estate complete its 42<sup>nd</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



#### 2020 VINTAGE

Vintage number 42 at Ashbrook saw one of our earliest starts to harvest with the first Chardonnay grapes coming into the winery on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Less than ideal spring weather impacted flowering and fruit-set in several white varieties resulting in lower-than-normal yields. Above average spring temperatures evolved into perfect summer growing conditions which accelerated grape development. Timely flowering of native Marri trees kept bird pressure at bay. The combination of lower yields, a warm, dry ripening and no disease pressure resulted in fruit of exceptional quality with concentrated aromas and flavours.

#### 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 seven 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 and 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 (13% new) for 24 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.

#### TASTING NOTES

Bright ruby with purple hues. Aromas of redcurrants, cherry plum, raspberry compôte, vanilla and spice. Youthful palate fleshing out to show red and darker fruits, ample tannin and focus for longevity. Decant for optimal enjoyment. (VF)

#### REGION

Wilyabrup, Margaret River

#### VARIETIES

Cabernet Sauvignon 86%, Petit Verdot 7%, Cabernet Franc 4% and Merlot 3%

#### HARVEST DATES

25<sup>th</sup> February, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

#### BOTTLING DATE

7<sup>th</sup> November 2022

#### CLOSURE

Stelvin+

#### TECHNICAL DATA

Alc 13.5% v/v