

EST. 1975



ASHBROOK ESTATE
WILYABRUP MARGARET RIVER

MUSEUM RELEASE

2017 SEMILLON

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 crafted from hand-picked, only Estate-grown fruit. All processing, winemaking, bottling and packaging are done on site using the Estate's own private facilities. 2018 saw Ashbrook Estate complete its 40th consecutive 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



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 Silvereye bird damage was negligible for the earlier varieties however all nets were unrolled for the later varieties. Yields were back to traditional volumes but most importantly the quality was impeccable. The long, cool ripening season with the absence of heat waves has produced incredible varietal typicity, retained natural acidity, elegance and modest alcohol levels. The resultant wines are expected to age superbly.

VINEYARD

Obtaining cuttings from Bill Pannell's Moss Wood vineyard in 1976, Ashbrook's love affair with Semillon began. Due to its popularity & ultimate suitability to the Margaret River region a second block was planted in 1988. Originally all VSP-trellised and spur-pruned, the majority was converted to cane-pruned lyre trellis in the early-1990s chasing more of the primary fruit flavours the variety has to offer while still incorporating the grassier characters obtained from the spur-pruned VSP trellis. Coupled with the application of composted mulch, for the past 10 years, the vineyard shows exceptional health and balance.

WINEMAKING

Grapes were hand-picked in the cool of dawn on the 6th, 9th and 20th of February 2017. Destemming and pressing occurred immediately and the juice was cold settled and racked before inoculation and fermentation in stainless steel. The wine was stabilized and filtered before bottling under screwcap on June 12th 2017 (VF) 13.0% v/v

WINE REVIEWS

"Mature vines and stainless steel fermentation focus maximum attention on the zesty palate, with its mix of lemongrass, cut grass and unsweetened lemon flavours on the very long finish." 94 points and 'Special Value' James Halliday AM, 11 July 2021, winecompanion.com.au

"Now with six years bottle maturation, youthful citrus, sugar snap pea and sweet grassy notes have morphed into aromas and flavours of honeydew melon, citrus compote, roasted nuts, buttered toast and straw. Still showing vibrancy and length. This beautiful vintage Semillon is a rare gem thanks to impeccable fruit quality, bountiful natural acidity and elegance of varietal character." Catherine Edwards, winemaker, 03 July 2023.