

EST. 1975



ASHBROOK ESTATE
WILYABRUP MARGARET RIVER

ASHBROOK ESTATE

2023 Semillon

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. 2023 sees Ashbrook Estate complete its 45th 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



2023 VINTAGE

According to our Wilyabrup weather station, we recorded above average cumulative rainfall (536.4mm) over the winter months of 2022. Below average temperatures from mid-July (through to February) meant the vines had an excellent dormancy, sluggish awakening and mild start to the growing season. Another 178.4mm of rainfall during spring (slightly above the 10-year average) left the vines in good stead for the very dry finish to ripening. Only 2.6mm rainfall was recorded over the summer months however, maximum daytime temperatures were average or below with no extreme heat events thanks to beautifully cool nights. The dry conditions and scarcity of Marri blossom meant netting the vines was essential to protect them from silvereye bird damage. We began harvesting Chardonnay on the 16th of February, one day later than the previous vintage, and had our last Petit Verdot grapes safely inside the winery by April 6th, before the rain arrived. The nine-week harvest period was our lengthiest in a while, thanks to bountiful yields, with all varieties except Riesling and Verdelho, above the ten-year average. The aroma and flavour intensity of the 2023 vintage, across the board, is nothing short of exceptional thanks to optimal dry weather conditions and impeccable vineyard health.

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 spur pruned on a VSP trellis, 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 flavours from the mixture of spur and cane pruned VSP rows. Coupled with the application of composted mulch over several years, the vineyard shows exceptional health and balance.

WINEMAKING

Our four blocks of Semillon grapes were hand-picked over three days in the cool of dawn to capture the full spectrum of flavour this variety can achieve in Wilyabrup. Destemming and careful pressing occurred immediately and the juice was cold settled and racked before inoculation and fermentation in stainless steel. Minimal fining with bentonite was carried out before cold stabilization, filtration and bottling. Made in an unwooded, dry style. (VF)

TASTING NOTES

Pale straw colour with hues of green. Aromas of freshly mown grass, citrus flower and lemon zest. The palate is quenched in lemon barley, lime coulis and tropical notes finishing with lovely, clean, lemony acidity and a lifted mouthfeel. Delicious as a young wine and has the fruit purity, palate weight and length to age beautifully.

REGION

Wilyabrup, Margaret River

VARIETY

Semillon

HARVEST DATES

7th, 13th & 15th March 2023

BOTTLING DATE

22nd August 2023

CLOSURE

Stelvin+

TECHNICAL DATA

Alc 13.5% v/v