

## **ASHBROOK ESTATE**

### 2021 Verdelho

# 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 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. 2021 sees

Ashbrook Estate complete its 43<sup>rd</sup> Vintage, one of only five Margaret River wineries to do so!

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



#### 2021 VINTAGE

The 2020/21 growing season began with mild spring conditions and reasonable rainfall making for a typical budburst and flowering. Cyclonic weather systems in the north of the state gave us a significantly wet November (13 days of rain) however December and January were warm and dry with cool nights. Vintage 43 at Ashbrook commenced on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February with our Chardonnay grapes. Unseasonal rain events across February (96.6mm) and March (67mm) extended the harvest period for some of the later ripening varieties but thanks to our open trellis and meticulous vineyard management all the white and red grapes had reached the winery in excellent condition by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Marri tree blossom was adequate to keep the silvereye birds at bay however nets were applied to much of the vineyard. Low to average yields across all varieties have assisted with incredible flavour at lower baumés (potential alcohols) with a surprising amount of retained natural acidity.

#### **VINEYARD**

After collecting cuttings from one of the oldest vineyards in the Swan Valley north east of Perth in 1976 the "Old Block" Verdelho was planted on Ashbrook Estate. Due to its popularity a second block was planted in 1987 which is affectionately known as the "Verdelho over the creek". Originally all spur pruned on a VSP trellis, the majority was converted to cane pruned lyre trellis in 2010 with immediate and brilliant results. Coupled with the application of composted mulch over several years, the vineyard shows remarkable health.

#### WINEMAKING

Grapes were hand-picked over a seven-day period in the cool of the morning. Destemming and 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 with 100% natural acidity.

**REGION** Wilyabrup, Margaret River

VARIETY Verdelho

**HARVEST DATES** 17<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

**BOTTLING DATE** 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021

CLOSURE Stelvin+

**TECHNICAL DATA** Alc 13.3% v/v

TA 7.3g/l

pH 3.22