The Real Review 2026
TOP WINERIES AUSTRALIA

EST. 1975

ASHBROOK ESTATE

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 own private facilities. 2026 saw Ashbrook Estate complete its 48th 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**



ASHBROOK ESTATE VERDELHO 2026

2026 VINTAGE

After one of our wettest winters on record, a mild spring and a warm, dry summer with cool afternoon sea breezes, the mild Mediterranean climate of Margaret River once again delivered a superb vintage. Vines were refreshed and healthy and bird pressure kept at bay with a decent Marri blossoming. Five consecutive weeks of hand-picking and processing began on the 12th February with our Verdelho. Semillon and Riesling harvests followed and then thanks to its excellent dormancy, the Chardonnay was our fourth variety to enter the winery this year. There was no break in picking between whites and reds with the last of the Sauvignon Blanc harvested on the 3rd and the Shiraz harvest beginning on the 4th of March. The last of the Cabernet and blending varieties were in the winery by March 20th, a week before any rain events. Warm days and cool nights during harvest produced fruit with excellent depth of flavour, preserved freshness and varietal purity.

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 the years, the vineyard shows remarkable health and balance.

WINEMAKING

Grapes were handpicked over two days 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. This vibrant, unwooded style of Verdelho shows intense tropical and citrus aromas and flavours yet finishes crisp and dry with a refreshing length that makes it the perfect accompaniment to spicy, full-flavoured dishes. (VF)

"This is another variety that Ashbrook has been championing for many years." **Ray Jordan 2026 Wine Review**

REGION	Wilyabrup, Margaret River
VARIETY	Verdelho
HARVEST DATES	12th & 13th February 2026
BOTTLING DATE	20th May 2026
CLOSURE	Stelvin+
TECHNICAL DATA	Alc 13.5% v/v