



HOWARD PARK  
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

## 2022 HOWARD PARK SWAN VALLEY GRENACHE

### REGIONAL RANGE

The Howard Park regional selection draws upon the varietal heroes of the Western Australia's premier grape growing regions to produce wines of exceptional typicity and character.

Located on the upper reaches of the Swan River to the east of Perth, Swan Valley is the oldest wine growing subregion in WA, renowned for its concentrated and flavourful warm climate varieties such as Grenache.

### TASTING NOTES

Bright, clear garnet in the glass the Swan Valley Grenache offers striking liquorice and allspice notes, overlaid with floral aromas of violet and hibiscus, and a hint of crushed slate minerality. A refreshing cranberry tartness greets the front palate before melding seamlessly with flavours of Rainier cherry and Satsuma plum. Well-balanced acidity, a supple viscosity and delicate tannins add texture and interest. This is an inviting and exuberant wine which is light enough to serve chilled on a summer's day.

### VINTAGE

In 2022, beautiful dry and sunny conditions were entrenched throughout January and February, removing a great deal of the disease pressure that rain and humidity can bring and allowing a predictable insight into ripening patterns across most varieties.

While summer set the scene for another consistent and memorable vintage, certain varieties paid a penalty for difficult conditions earlier in the growing season. The wet winter of 2021 lingered unduly, smothering the renewal of spring and delaying the onset of budburst and flowering in vineyards across Western Australia.

Consistent fine weather at the tail end of the growing season ensured that the potential developed in the vines was maximised by picking at optimum levels of ripeness. Superb balance between sugar, acidity and flavour across all varieties gives us great optimism for the evolution of wines from the 2022 vintage.

### VINEYARDS

Planted in the early 1950s, with an average age of 70 years, the vines grow as untrellised bush vines. This approach to canopy management results in a thick umbrella of leaves, perfect for protecting the grapes from the region's harsh summer sun. Soils are sandy and nutrient poor. While Grenache is better able to thrive among these challenging conditions than many other varieties, yields are persistently low and the picking window is slim, necessitating meticulous viticultural practises.

### WINEMAKING

Grapes are destemmed to open top stainless-steel fermenters with a portion fermented in concrete. Wild ferment with twice daily plunging plus air injection to maintain vibrancy of colour and flavour. The juice is off skins after 9 days then matured in stainless steel tank, with a portion matured in old French puncheons for 5 months.



**Variety:**  
Grenache

**Region:**  
Swan Valley

**Cellaring:**  
Drink now and over the next few years

**Analysis:**  
Alcohol: 14% v/v  
pH: 3.43  
Acidity: 4.9 g/l  
Residual Sugar: 0.3 g/l