



**HOWARD PARK**  
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

## 2023 HOWARD PARK FLINT ROCK RIESLING

### REGIONAL RANGE

The name “Flint Rock” epitomizes the fine mineral structure and savoury elegance of wines grown in the wildly remote and awesomely beautiful Great Southern region of Western Australia. Our regional selection draws upon the varietal heroes of the 3 primary sub-regions; Mount Barker, Porongurup and Frankland River to craft wines with regional typicity and character.

Riesling is a true hero of the Great Southern - demanding, sensitive yet tough enough to thrive in the vagaries of this cool, dry climate. Wines crafted from Riesling are exceptionally revealing and critical of the environment in which they grow and the human interactions engaged to create them.

### TASTING NOTES

From the glass, an enticing bouquet arises, resplendent with honeysuckle, key lime, and sea spray, undercut by the invigorating essence of lemon sherbet, clementine and grapefruit. A vivacious surge of juicy, vibrant acidity washes over the palate, unveiling a spectrum of citrus and stone fruit, from the sweet allure of green apple to the refreshing squeeze of Meyer lemon. Delicate nuances of pear and white peach introduce richness and complexity as well as a pleasing textural dimension. Subtle mineral undertones guide the way to a crisp yet enduring finish. This wine stands as a testament to the artful interplay of citrus vibrancy, subtle minerality and refined texture, offering a truly enjoyable drink.

### VINTAGE

Cooler-than-usual temperatures paired with optimal, dry weather set the scene for an extended, yet exceptional vintage in both Margaret River and Great Southern. A moderate season, it was perfect for gentle, even ripening across all grape varieties.

Heavy winter rains recharged soil moisture levels and refilled vineyard dams paving the way for a promising start to the growing season. Cool temperatures lingered making for a mild spring with a lovely, yet late budburst. The weather warmed and rain ceased providing the ideal conditions for flowering, canopy growth and fruit set in Margaret River. Great Southern was cooler and wetter which led to poor fruit set and small bunches reducing yield. However, these lower yields would later lead to fuller fruit ripeness at harvest.

Dry, sunny, and warm weather free from any extreme heat continued throughout summer creating an idyllic atmosphere for steady, prolonged ripening with harvest commencing on the 16 February and not finishing until 22 April. Minimal rain fell during this period allowing the fruit to stay out on the vine until full ripeness and flavour development were achieved while cooling winds ensured good acid retention and freshness.

Some late summer/early autumn rain events delayed the red harvest slightly, however, the rainfall did not lead to any disease pressure, instead, it refreshed canopies and invigorated the vines. Altogether another high-quality, graceful year much like 2022.

### VINEYARDS

From Porongurup, the line and length of bright citrus with savoury minerals and lifted spice harmonizes beautifully with Mount Barker’s juicy pomme fruits and citrus perfume. Tempered by low rainfall and growing in lateritic gravelly, sandy loams of variable fertility and water holding capacity, the vines are low to moderate in yield.

### WINEMAKING

Each vineyard block was vinified separately in stainless steel tanks. After settling bright, the free run juice was racked before a long and cold fermentation to preserve freshness and fine fruit flavours. After a light fining and filtration, the wine was bottled.



**Varieties:**  
Riesling

**Region:**  
Great Southern

**Cellaring:**  
Drink now or cellar for up to 7 years

**Analysis:**  
Alcohol: 12.5% v/v  
pH: 3.02  
Acidity: 7.2 g/l  
Residual Sugar: 0.7 g/l