



**HOWARD PARK**  
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

## 2020 HOWARD PARK SCOTSDALE SHIRAZ

### DISTINGUISHED SITES

Shiraz from vineyards in the Frankland River subregion of the Great Southern is blended to highlight the distinctive varietal and regional qualities of our best sites.

The expression of Shiraz from this cool, continental climate is characterised by an intensity and concentration of dark fruits with traces of spice, earth and guiding tannins.

### TASTING NOTES

Cavernous crimson with flecks of violet fraying at the edge of the glass, this wine displays a richness and inky depth that is irresistibly alluring and foretells a complex journey to come. An appealing amalgam of blackberry, boysenberry and cassis greet the nose carried upon undercurrents of woody spice, ironstone and crushed pink peppercorn. All the dark berries on the nose are present on the palate, accompanied by damson plum and black cherry with hints of Chinese five-spice, fennel seed and liquorice root. Supple tannins, finely woven, caress the palate complemented by a balanced and distinctly Great Southern acidity. A wine of eloquence and intensity, it leaves an indelible impression long after the final sip.

### VINTAGE

In the cool and temperate climate of the South West of Western Australia, the winter of 2019 gave less than average rainfall, and an expectation that yields from the 2020 vintage would be low. As the earth gradually faced more to the sun, spring uncoiled its impulsive nature, followed by a temperate warm, dry summer - setting the stage for a promising outcome.

With veraison came the flowering of the native marri blossoms to avert the attention of our indigenous resident bird population away from the fruit. Such an event negates one annoyance at least. The middle autumnal period continued to be dry, with a mild to warm temperature which began to impact vintage in early March as all varieties readied for an early harvest. Our intake was regular and moderated with a good progression from early whites to late reds boasting dry, warm conditions throughout. 2020 is yet another vintage from Western Australia with little complaint as we empathised with our eastern state colleagues, so ravaged by wild fires.

In summary, the vintage is very good yet slow to show its true potential. Early varieties such as Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay show good varietal purity, with subtle, lasting flavours and the later reds such as Shiraz show good depth of flavour, good perfume, fine tannin and poise.

### VINEYARDS

The wine was blended from a selection of the best batches of Shiraz grown on our vineyards in Frankland River. Soils in this area are lateritic gravels over sandy, clay loam.

### WINEMAKING

Small parcels were hand-picked and hand-sorted to remove any unwanted material before fermentation. Fermentation occurred in open vat and closed stainless steel fermenters. Select parcels of wine were run to barrel between 2 & 3<sup>e</sup> Baume to capture new barrel characters from the final degrees of fermentation. The remaining blocks were pressed at dryness to retain fruit vibrancy. Each batch was matured separately in order to build a wine history over time. The wine was matured for 18 months in new (~ 25%) and older French oak barriques, hogsheads and puncheons. After blending to tank the wine was lightly fined and filtered prior to bottling.



Variety:  
Shiraz

Region:  
Frankland River

Cellaring:  
Drink now or cellar for  
up to 15 years.

Analysis:  
Alcohol: 14.5% v/v  
Acidity: 6.3 g/l  
pH 3.55  
Residual Sugar: 0.49 g/l