



HOWARD PARK
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

2019 HOWARD PARK MUSEUM RELEASE RIESLING

MUSEUM RELEASE

From its beginnings in 1986, Howard Park has made Riesling from the Great Southern wine region of Western Australia. Since then, our Riesling has grown to become one of the most collected Rieslings in Australia. To experience the complexity Riesling offers over time, we set aside a portion of the best vintages of to be carefully cellared under ideal conditions, then release it as a museum wine after 5 to 7 years.

TASTING NOTES

ORIGINAL RELEASE NOTE (tasted January 2020)

Perfumery notes of gardenia, magnolia and citrus blossom give a richly aromatic bouquet. The flavour spectrum traverses white flesh stone fruits, citrus, green melon and pear. Elements of lime skin and wet stone add a textural dimension. This richly flavoured and textured wine is deftly refined by a fine linear acidity.

RE-RELEASE NOTE (tasted September 2024)

This Riesling reveals its evolution with a bouquet of jasmine, preserved lemon, and dried apricot, layered with hints of lanolin and honeycomb. The palate showcases a delicate balance of rich, secondary flavours—baked apple, nectarine tart, and salted lemon rind—while maintaining a vibrant, linear acidity. Subtle minerality and a touch of beeswax add complexity and texture, leading to a lingering, harmonious finish. Showcasing crispness and vibrancy this wine presents as much younger than its vintage suggests, ensuring a long and rewarding evolution in bottle yet to come.

VINTAGE

As the substantially wet winter brought a close to the 2018 season, a mild and wet spring heralded the start of 2019. The summer high pressure systems associated with warm day time temperatures were struggling to impact the season early as growth was moderated in the moist, cool conditions. Heat summation comparisons over the vintages of the past decade did indicate a delayed start to the vintage as the summer continued warm and devoid of heat spikes. With yields looking low to moderate, optimism was winning the arm wrestle over pessimism as vintage commenced in mid to late February at the close of summer.

The majority of white varieties were picked over a protracted period from early to late March, in dry conditions. Some fungal disease did proliferate which required an extra degree of care and attention at harvest. These moderate conditions continued through autumn as the reds began to trickle in from mid-April. Rain in mid-April bothered the vines little yet bird pressure and early autumn control burns remained imminent threats.

For all the trials and tribulations that vintage brings, the quality outcomes from 2019 are good. The whites have retained purity and vibrancy, which is always a signature of the slightly cooler years and the reds show a concentration of flavour, elegance, definition and supple tannins.

VINEYARDS

The Museum Release Riesling is an annual blend of the finest cut of free juice from select vineyard blocks growing on our Mount Barrow vineyard. This vineyard is planted on a picturesque ridge-top at an elevation of between 285 to 370m, with a vista to the ocean, 40 kilometres south. The soils, variable in fertility and water holding capacity are typically composed of a shallow sandy clay loam over ironstone.

WINEMAKING

Each vineyard block is vinified separately in stainless steel tanks. After settling bright, the free run juice is racked before a long and cold fermentation to preserve regional character and delicate fruit flavours. Blending occurs in June of the vintage year, with the objective of showcasing the typicity of each site in the final wine.



Variety:
Riesling

Region:
Mount Barker

Cellaring:
Drink now or cellar for
10+ years

Analysis:
Alcohol: 12% v/v
pH: 3.1
Acidity: 7.9 g/L
Residual Sugar: 1.7 g/L