



HOWARD PARK

MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

2020 HOWARD PARK SCOTSDALE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

DISTINGUISHED SITES

Cabernet Sauvignon from our Abercrombie vineyard, located in the Mount Barker subregion of the Great Southern, is crafted to highlight the distinctive varietal and regional qualities of our best sites. Planted to the Houghton clones of Cabernet in 1976, in this cooler, continental climate, the vineyard sits on a north facing, elevated slope where it captures ample sun to fully ripen Cabernet Sauvignon.

TASTING NOTES

Deep garnet in colour with notes of black and red forest berries, sweet vanilla pod and spiced cedar oak waft from the glass. Melodious fleshy blackberries, boysenberry and ripe strawberry perfumes lead the way and intermingle with deep savoury notes of black current bud, Tuscan herbs and graphite. The palate revels bright red fruits, promoting red plum and pomegranate followed by mulberry and cassis. 18 months in well-integrated oak promotes a mix of Christmas spice and baked vanillin pastry that linger on the back palate. Powerful, yet elegant with a succulent freshness and dusting of fine china tannin, this wine drinks beautifully in its youth but will reward you with patience if you can cellar over the next 15 years.

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

Vineyard: Abercrombie Blocks 1A, 1B & 2.

Location: Mount Barker, Great Southern.

Soils: shallow lateritic gravels over sandy, clay loam.

Aspect: North easterly slope Clone:

Houghton, planted 1976

WINEMAKING

Small parcels were hand-picked and hand sorted to remove any unwanted material before fermentation. Fermentation occurred in closed stainless steel fermenters and small open top fermenters. Selected parcels remained on skins after fermentation to further enhance the tannin profile while others were pressed at dryness to capture fruit vibrancy. Each batch was matured separately in order to build a wine history over time. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation and matured in French oak (~ 25% new) for 18 months prior to blending, fining and bottling.



Variety:
Cabernet Sauvignon

Region:
Mount Barker

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

Analysis:
Alcohol: 14% v/v
Acidity: 6.5 g/l
pH 3.51
Residual Sugar: 0.6 g/l