



HOWARD PARK
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

2022 HOWARD PARK ABERCROMBIE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Howard Park's winemaking philosophy is to craft elegant, age-worthy wines from our best sites in the Margaret River & Great Southern regions of Western Australia. Critical site selection, meticulous viticultural practice and detailed winemaking underline each Icon wine.

In name, the Icon wines pay homage to significant members of the Burch family. The Abercrombie is Howard Park's finest Cabernet Sauvignon. Jeff Burch, the owner of Howard Park, has named this wine after his Great Grandfather and mentor, Walter Abercrombie.

TASTING NOTES

Emanating entirely from Margaret River, this vintage marks a departure from the traditional blend, instead offering a testament to the region's unparalleled Cabernet Sauvignon terroir. A captivating array of aromas rise from the glass carried upon a concentrated core of red and black fruit. Lifted notes of crème de violet, cinnamon quill, clove, blackberry, cassis, and mulberry lay atop earthy, crushed gravel, dried rosemary and hints of cedar spice. Smooth, opulent fruit fills the palate gliding along a fine and well-balanced acidity. Perfectly pitched tannins and subtle oak influence are orchestrated with precision, providing sublime structure and power to every corner of the palate. Culminating in a lengthy, impeccably balanced finish, this wine is filled with a delightful fruit density and endless layers of flavour. Although incredibly appealing in its youth, there is plenty more to come with further time in bottle.

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 the vineyards. The consequence was reduced yields in our estate vineyards in the Great Southern.

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

This wine is sourced from Leston Vineyard in Margaret River

Vine age: Leston Block 29 - 9 years

Clone: Houghton selection

Soils: deep lateritic gravels

Aspect: westerly slope

WINEMAKING

Small, pristine parcels of fruit were hand-picked, sorted, and destemmed prior to fermentation. Fermentation occurred in small open stainless steel vats with careful twice daily plunging of the cap to extract flavours and tannins from the skins. Select parcels remained on skins post fermentation to further enhance the tannin profile while others were pressed at dryness to capture maximum fruit vibrancy. Each batch was matured separately in French oak barriques in order to maximise the choices when it came blending. This wine was assembled from specially selected barrels and was bottled after a light egg fining and filtration.

Barrel maturation: 18 months in 30% new, 30% second use, and 40% older French oak barriques.



Varieties:
Cabernet Sauvignon

Region:
Margaret River

Cellaring:
20+ years

Analysis:
Alcohol: 14.5% v/v
pH: 3.48
Acidity: 6.2 g/l
Residual Sugar: 0.4 g/l