



HOWARD PARK
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

2018 HOWARD PARK A·S·W CABERNET SAUVIGNON SHIRAZ

Howard Park's winemaking philosophy is to craft elegant, age-worthy wines from our best sites in the Margaret River and Great Southern wine regions of Western Australia. Critical site selection, meticulous viticulture and detailed winemaking underline each Icon wine. In name, the Icon wines pay homage to significant members of the Burch family.

The A.S.W. is the first wine to acknowledge Amy Burch's side of the family. Co-owner Amy has been deeply involved in Howard Park from the very early days.

Coincidentally, Amy's parents share the initials, A.S.W. Her father, Alex Stephen Wee, was a successful Singaporean business person; a self-made man who arrived in Singapore from East Malaysia in 1946 with 1 Singapore dollar. Amy's mother, Annie Sheila Wee, had a cultural affinity with red wine due to her upbringing by French & Irish nuns as a boarder in Singapore. She still favours a glass of Shiraz to this day. The Wees came to Australia in the 1960s. Amy, is proud to commemorate her parents and the sum of all her family's efforts in this special wine.

TASTING NOTES

Intense blueberry, vanilla, chocolate, and dark cherry, supported by a hint of black olive and subtle cinnamon and anise seasoning. The palate is plush and brimming with powerful berry notes, intermingled with vanilla and coconut. Persistent flavours, fine ripe tannins, a lavish texture, and spice complexity have melded well to produce this opulent and luxurious wine. *Tasted - Janice McDonald, February 2021*

VINTAGE

The 2018 growing season saw a return to weather conditions more favourable and typical of the past decade in the south west of Western Australia.

Our Margaret River vintage commenced on 19th February with Chardonnay and concluded with Cabernet Sauvignon on 19th April. Good winter rains were followed by a temperate spring, then a moderate to warm summer - a textbook progression of seasons for the ideal vintage.

With veraison came the native marri blossom and a sigh of relief that the annual joust with the native resident birds would be a minor battle not a major war. As autumn progressed, conditions remained fine. Yields were moderate across all varieties and full ripeness and flavour development, concurrent.

The early quality assessment of the 2018 vintage is excellent. White wines are exhibiting very pure and focused varietal notes while the reds show ripe berry flavours and supple tannins.

VINEYARD

Decades of developing the Leston Vineyard as a premier site for red grape varieties has culminated in this fine wine, which is a blend from the best Cabernet and Shiraz sites of the Leston vineyard.

Location: Wilyabrup

Soils: lateritic gravels

Aspect: Cabernet westerly and Shiraz north easterly

Clone: Houghton selection Cabernet, Shiraz unknown

WINEMAKING

The A.S.W. is a stylistic departure for Howard Park, being a red blend of all Margaret River fruit, and the only wine with a significant use of American oak.

Cabernet parcels are fermented in static fermenters fitted with heading down boards to maintain a submerged cap and gentle extract of flavour and tannins. The Shiraz parcels are fermented in 4t open fermenters with pneumatic pigeage and are retained on skins at the end of fermentation for several weeks.

Matured separately in French oak for 18 months, before blending and then a further two months élevage in American oak after blending.



Varieties:

Cabernet Sauvignon 81%
Shiraz 19%

Region:

Margaret River

Cellaring:

10 to 15 years

Analysis:

Alcohol: 14.5% v/v

pH: 3.54

Acidity: 6.0 g/l

Residual Sugar: 0.5 g/l