



**HOWARD PARK**  
WINES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## 2013 HOWARD PARK ABERCROMBIE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

*The Abercrombie is Howard Park Wines finest Cabernet Sauvignon. In most years the wine is a blend of grapes sourced from the Abercrombie vineyard in Mount Barker and the Leston vineyard in Margaret River. Our long term commitment to and passion for grape growing in the two major premium grape growing regions of Western Australia is reflected in this wine.*

### VINTAGE

#### Great Southern

The Great Southern began the growing season with just adequate soil moisture and catchment fill. Cool and blustery spring weather in November impacted flowering, set and early spring growth. Summer was punctuated by hot spells, which magnified the effects of little spring or summer rain. The south facing vineyard sites did receive some cooling breezes off the southern ocean and the more continental sub region of Frankland at least experienced cooler nights. These hot, dry conditions accelerated ripeness with sugar accumulation well in advance of flavour in late March. A sporadic deluge of between 25 to 60 mm in early April, as autumn temperatures cooled, did slow the red maturities. The below average yields have produced wines full of concentrated fruit, ample acidity and fine tannins.

#### Margaret River

Margaret River began the growing season with a rain filled soil profile and full catchments. Late spring was mild and windy with a 4 day period of damaging north westerlies during flowering. This common spring weather pattern did affect set and subsequent yields in all varieties. Other than this blustery start, the vintage was uniformly warm to hot and without significant summer rains. With yields below average, the wines produced from the 2013 vintage are full of ripe varietal fruit, bright acidity and supple tannins. This vintage is excellent for Cabernet Sauvignon.

### TECHNICAL NOTES

All grapes selected for Abercrombie are handpicked, destemmed and sorted before fermentation in a mix of small static fermenters and open stainless steel vats. The grapes are hand-plunged and pumped over as required to balance the extraction of colour, tannin and flavour. Each fermenter is basket-pressed to French oak barriques for 18 months of maturation to achieve thorough integration of oak and grape tannins. The wine is minimally fined then filtered prior to bottling.

### TASTING NOTES

A dark ruby red with purple hues and a translucent edge, all of which imply youth, intensity and promise. The bouquet is dense in dark berry fruits with hints of sweet, taley and spicy French oak. Rich in classic Cabernet notes of sweet blackberry and blackcurrant, savoury dried herbs and softening cocoa and mocha, the palate's opulence is shaped by a supple and fine tannin structure. This wine has a powerful presence, a sweet core and lasting flavours that with reveal and reward with time.

### CELLARING

After a minimum of 6 months settling in bottle, the wine is released. The 2013 is an outstanding vintage of Abercrombie that will take time to reach maturity then cellar well for more than a decade. This wine will drink at its best from 2018.



#### Variety:

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

#### Region:

81% MOUNT BARKER  
19% MARGARET RIVER

#### Cellaring:

MORE THAN A DECADE

#### Analyses:

ALCOHOL: 14% V/V  
PH: 3.57

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**Margaret River & Great Southern**  
Western Australia