

# MARCHAND & BURCH



FINE WINES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND BURGUNDY

## 2016 MARCHAND & BURCH MOUNT BARROW PINOT NOIR

### Vintage

Vintage at Burch Family Wines is a protracted event which commences each February and concludes in April. It is a time of frenetic activity, excitement and lots of weather watching. In all cropping pursuits, the weather over the ripening period comes under increased scrutiny the closer one gets to harvest. During this annual progression of the seasons, the quality and style of each vintage evolves.

The 2016 vintage in the Great Southern commenced on 6th February and concluded on 10th April. In this cool continental climate, the winter of 2015 was mild with sufficient rains to replenish catchments. The spring, less blustery than preceding years gave way to a hot start to summer.

When veraison began, in mid-January, the native marri blossom was curiously absent. The "bird pressure" as we call it, can have a significant impact on quality, quantity and stress levels. As summer passed into autumn, the more southerly of the sub regions, Mount Barker and Porongurup spent the vintage period in and out of humid on-shore streams with rainfall to April, twice the average.

In review, the quality of the 2016 vintage ranges from good to great across all varieties, thanks to the diligent efforts of our vineyard team to select only the best grapes under challenging circumstances. It is a vintage like 2016 that tests our collective expertise to create good outcomes. Under such pressure, the necessary changes to picking criteria can yield unexpected, positive results and the opportunity to acquire new knowledge from the experience.

### Vineyard

Located on the eastern edge of the Mt Barker sub-region, the Mount Barrow vineyard is dedicated to growing Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes for table and sparkling wine. The unique attributes of this site include an elevation of 380m and a panorama of vineyard aspects from north south, planted in ancient soils.

The 2016 vintage is a blend of individually vinified clones from the D block. This block sits at an elevation of 340m to 350m on a north facing slope. The vine density is 6,422 vines per hectare and the planting material is a combination of clones 114, 115 and 777. The single lateral cordon supports a low yield and is green bunch thinned toward the end of veraison to ensure even ripeness.

*Harvest dates:* 17 & 18 March 2016

### Vinification

All grapes are hand-picked and hand sorted before destemming. A portion of whole bunch is incorporated before fermentation to build structure in the wine. The natural yeast population of the vineyard dominates the fermentation and gentle pneumatic plunging throughout the fermentation wets the cap. Some parcels are pressed early to retain bright fruit notes while others are maintained on skins to soften tannins. Each parcel is basket pressed, then allowed to settle before decanting to French oak.

Oak maturation combines barriques, hogsheads and puncheons of which 45% are new. The malolactic is completed in oak where the wine remains for a further 8 months. The wine was blended, fined with fresh egg white, filtered then bottled in October 2016.

### Tasting Notes

The translucent bright cherry colour and lifted aromatics suggest elegance and vivacity. Engaging aromatics of soft red fruits, sweet and exotic spice, savoury herb, earth and cocoa support this profile. The supple fruit of the palate is layered with dusty stalk and sweet oak tannins to build a complexity of texture, flavour and structure in the wine. The finishing acidity is supportive and balanced. *Tasted December 2016 JM*

### Cellaring

An elegant Pinot Noir with a delicate balance between fruit and subtle complexities that build and give great dimension, flavour and structure. Cellar and enjoy over the next 5 years.



### Analysis

Alcohol 13.5%v.v  
pH 3.63  
Acidity 5.5g.lt  
Residual sugar 0.6 g.lt

### CONTACT US:

PH: +618 9336 9600

F: +618 9336 9622

E: [HPW@HPW.COM.AU](mailto:HPW@HPW.COM.AU)

[WWW.BURCHFAMILYWINES.COM.AU](http://WWW.BURCHFAMILYWINES.COM.AU)

VINS FINS DE BOURGOGNE ET D'AUSTRALIE DEL'OUSTI  
FINE WINES WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND BURGUNDY