



SANDALFORD

WINEMAKERS

2017 Winemakers Merlot

Tasting Notes

The Story

The Winemakers Range is all about delivering quite simply the best Western Australian wine at the best price. Quite simply, "Bang for your buck!" These wines are a blend of both the Margaret River and Swan Valley regions. In other words we have the riper, richer notes from the Swan with the cooler climate, more elegant and sophisticated characters from Margaret River. There are no lashings of oak and winemaking artefact here, just great fruit-driven wines from vines up to fifty years of age. These wines are all about balance, harmony and drinkability without burning a hole in your purse or wallet! So go on, have a crack and let us know the outcome! As always, enjoy in moderation.

Grapes

Merlot

Origin

Western Australia

Vintage

Here I was last year saying 2016 was a challenging vintage ... 2017 certainly topped it. A lot of rain fell in January and February. The Swan River was as full as I've ever seen it, yep it flooded – definitely not the norm to see a hay bale floating down the river! The growing season was much cooler than normal – the grapes were picked 3-4 weeks later than normal. This longer ripening time means the vines had more time to build excellent flavour concentration within the grapes.

Winemakers Blurb

Usual stuff here ... Ben (with some help) picked it, then Mark and Greg crushed it into the fermenter. Mark rehydrated the yeast and then it was fermented. It was on skins for about a week before being pressed to separate the wine and the skins. The wine was then left to mature before bottling.

Drinking Notes

This is another one of those easy drinking, moreish wines. It's all about the fruit – plums and Ribena cordial, with savoury spices on the end. Its soft and juicy and before you know it, the bottle will be all gone. Don't wait, drink it now.

Wine Analysis

Alcohol 14.5% pH 3.53 TA 6.30 g/L

This wine is vegan & vegetarian friendly

