

# SANDALFORD



## 2022 Margaret River Range Cabernet Merlot

### **Tasting Notes**

#### Varietal Breakdown

85% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Merlot.

#### Region

Margaret River

#### Vintage

The 2022 vintage could be best described as challenging. A reflection of the wetter than average summer impacting picking decisions. Our Wilyabrup vineyard however fared well and produced fresh, bright, flavoursome fruit to make wines from. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot grapes were machine harvested separately in the cool of the night and were phonologically ripe at the time of picking. The resulting wines are fresh, balanced and display wonderful varietal fruit characteristics.

#### Winemakers Comments

The two varieties were harvested separately during the cool of night in mid-April and destemmed to static fermenters. A select yeast isolate was used in the primary fermentation and lasted for 10 days with pump overs used twice daily during this period to ensure optimum extraction of colour, flavour and tannins. The wine was then drained and pressed to tank for malolactic fermentation before maturation in a combination of tank and seasoned French oak barrels before blending, fining and bottling.

#### **Tasting Notes**

**Colour:** Deep ruby red with youthful garnet hues.

**Nose:** Blackcurrant and red berry fruits overlaying plum skin, potpourri, wild

mint and bay leaf nuances. Oak spice, chocolate box and cedar notes

derived from French oak maturation adding to the appeal.

Palate: Medium to full bodied and elegant in structure, the generous sweet red

fruits, plum skin, and oak nuances are balanced with subtle savoury spice. The firm, fine grained tannin structure is well balanced providing length to the finish. This classic Bordeaux blend will cellar for up to 10

years adding complexity with bottle age.

Wine Analysis

Alcohol 14.4% pH 3.54 TA 6.32 g/L

This wine is vegetarian friendly

