



PITCHFORK

2015 MARGARET RIVER CHARDONNAY



VINTAGE: It has been a carefree run for winemakers in Margaret River over the last eight seasons with perfect season following one after another, and then 2015 came along and took us out of our comfort zone.

The growing season really starts in September/October of the year before.

In the late part of 2014, in October particularly, we experienced some of the wildest windiest weather for decades, unfortunately just when a number of grape varieties were flowering, and it is these flowers that when set become berries. The spring of 2014 was one of the worst flowerings on record with windy and wet conditions seriously compromising fruit set with the result that the yields of 2015 were the lowest that I have experienced in 23 years of growing grapes in the South West. Ouch.

The season itself was quite warm in the early part, and very dry. Easy conditions that produced very excellent quality white grapes but in quantities well below expectations.

WINEMAKING: The wine is unwooded, with fermentation occurring in stainless steel tanks and then bottled at an early age. A low temperature, protective regime was adopted during its production, thereby preserving the finer fruit characters.

COLOUR: Brilliant appearance, pale straw with green hues.

NOSE: Fermentation in stainless steel tank allows the full expression of Chardonnay fruit aroma without the influence of oak or lees resulting in a bright, clean tropical fruit bouquet.

PALATE: The palate is rich with tropical fruits, clean zippy acidity balances the sweet fruit character resulting in a bright fresh flavoursome palate. When good quality Chardonnay is used unwooded Chardonnay takes on a whole new level of depth and intensity.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

VINTAGE: 2014

VARIETY: Chardonnay 100%

ALCOHOL: 13.0%

GROWING REGION: Margaret River

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