



FERMROY
ESTATE

— MARGARET RIVER —

Fermoy Estate 2013 Vintage Report

A typically hot and dry start to January accelerated the development of whites in 2013, ensuring a rapid start to vintage and an early completion of the white vintage. Some challenging spring conditions meant crop levels were down to the lowest levels in a decade.

Cool and windy November weather interrupted flowering and subsequent fruit-set. Fermoy Estate was impacted by an isolated summer hail storm which hit our premium Chardonnay block the hardest, greatly reducing our yield. Otherwise, whites were in great condition and were picked with great flavour intensity.

Semillon and Sauvignon Blanc were typified by a distinct lemon intensity while Chardonnay displayed full, rich stone fruit characters.

The end of February marked a distinct change to milder conditions which allowed tannin ripeness in all red varieties to catch up on the runaway sugars. Nights cooled drastically, whilst a little bit of rain in March followed by a dry April provided ideal ripening conditions.

Marri blossom was in full swing, so bird pressure was minimal, while the dry conditions towards the end of the ripening period kept disease pressure down, so reds were able to be picked at optimal ripeness. Cabernet Sauvignon was typified by bold mulberry and blackcurrant fruit characters. Berry size was typically small, meaning good concentration of colour and flavour and great length and depth of tannin structure. Shiraz too, showed great colour, bold aromatics and soft tannin profiles.

In summary, another fine vintage in a long line for Margaret River.

Winemakers Vintage Rating: ★★★★★

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