



**FERMOY
ESTATE**

— MARGARET RIVER —

Fermoy Estate 2015 Vintage Report

2015 was another good year for Margaret River, albeit a vintage with a few more challenges than has been the case in recent history.

Inclement weather at flowering – during October and November – including cold night temperatures, wind and rain, meant that fruit set was compromised in part, and subsequent yields down across the region. Another hot start to summer saw rapid development of whites, with most fruit being off the vine a week or two earlier than normal. Good natural acid levels, and bright, vibrant flavours across the board has translated into wines of abundant flavour and varietal characteristics.

Semillon is showing lovely lemon purity and classic fresh straw characters, while Sauvignon Blanc displays gooseberry and savoury notes of fresh asparagus and blackcurrant leaf. Chardonnay in barrel is looking great, with grapefruit and custard apple notes melding seamlessly into new French oak barriques.

Milder conditions into March saw things slow down somewhat and allowed tannin ripeness in reds to catch up with sugar development. A late Marri blossom however meant that there was significant bird pressure across the district – netting was an absolute must. A couple of significant rain events (the first associated with Cyclone Olwyn) also complicated matters, but luckily we were able to react quickly enough to get fruit off the vine in time.

Shiraz, Merlot and some early ripening Cabernet came into the winery a little earlier than usual, but all were showing good flavour profiles. The Shiraz especially was an early highlight – creating medium weight wines showing lovely blue fruits and subtle spice elegance. We were able to let our premium Cabernet parcels hang on the vine for a few more weeks before impending heavy rain towards the end of the Easter weekend meant we picked our last fruit on Good Friday. These extra couple of weeks really allowed tannins to develop in the grape, and have created finely structured and elegant Cabernet wines showing a delicate texture, and fine gravelly tannins.

Winemakers Vintage Rating: ★★ ★ ½

Winemaker: Jeremy Hodgson

Head Office
316 Vincent Street
Leederville WA 6007

Winery & Vineyard
838 Metricup Road
Wilyabrup WA 6280

T +61 8 9755 6285
F +61 8 9755 6251
enquiries@fermoy.com.au

PO Box 123
Cowaramup WA 6284
www.fermoy.com.au