



THREE HILLS

# Three Hills Cabernet Merlot

## Background:

Our Three Hills vineyard is located in the southern extremity of the Margaret River appellation. In the far south-western corner of Western Australia, climatic circumstances are driven by the almost unchanging temperatures of the oceans that make up more than two thirds of the surface area of the southern hemisphere. The air masses move from the Indian ocean onto the land and it is these conditions that drive fruit maturation at Three Hills. Moderate temperatures during ripening are the key to flavour retention in the grape. Our vines are grown on an innovative trellis that offers an efficient solar array, and an umbrella for the fruit allowing the passage of dappled light.

This is our first ever release of a Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot blend in the prestigious Three Hills range. The reason we've released one in the 2018 vintage is because it was such a spectacular year and the fruit in the Three Hills Cabernet and Merlot blocks was of such iconic quality that it deserved to be elevated to Three Hills status.

This is a bold & beautiful wine, greatly enjoyed with a steak or stew, or simply when contemplating life.



## Current Release: 2018 Vintage

### Viticultural & vinification notes

<b>VINTAGE CONDITIONS</b>	An outstanding Margaret River vintage that may rate as the best of the decade. A long cool dry season produced optimal ripening conditions
<b>VINEYARD</b>	Hand-picked from Three Hills Karridale
<b>GRAPE VARIETY</b>	74% Cabernet sauvignon, 26% Merlot
<b>MATURATION</b>	15 months in 26% new oak puncheons and 74% seasoned French oak barriques
<b>WINE ANALYSIS</b>	Alc/Vol: 14.2% Acidity: 5.7 g/l pH: 3.71 Residual Sugar: 0.1 g/l

### Winemaker Mark Warren's comments

<b>COLOUR</b>	Deep, dark red colour with a vibrant red hue.
<b>NOSE</b>	A complex aroma of dark fruits, blueberry and violets with hints of tomato leaf, choc mint, coffee, wet gravel and cedary oak.
<b>PALATE</b>	The wine displays a solid palate presence with great fruit intensity. The flavours are distinctly black currant and plum skin with savoury notes of black olive and bay leaf as well as dark chocolate and mocha. The tannins are fine grained and provide a classic structure with a surprisingly soft finish.