

'MORRISON'S GIFT' 2020

HAY SHED HILL
MARGARET RIVER



The Hay Shed Hill vineyard is one of the pioneer vineyards of Margaret River, located in the Willyabrup sub-region; heart of Margaret River red wine country. Like many of the neighbouring vineyards Hay Shed Hill was founded by people outside the regions agricultural community, people driven by a common passion for the great wines of Bordeaux.

Since the ground breaking work of Professor Harold Olmo of the University of California Davis and the local legend Dr John Gladstones in the 60s that identified and quantified the climatic and soil attributes of this part of Margaret River, noting the uncanny homoclimatic similarity to that of Bordeaux, the early founders were driven to produce world class Cabernet based blends.

The Hay Shed Hill 'Morrison's Gift' is named after the founders of Hay Shed Hill Wines; Liz and Barry Morrison who planted the grape varieties made famous in Bordeaux. This wine is made from Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Malbec and Cabernet Franc in honour of their foresight. We thank them for the gift of these fully mature plantings on this wonderful vineyard site that allow us to make wines like the Hay Shed Hill Morrison's Gift'.

THE VINTAGE 2020

The year 2020 will naturally go down as a very strange year for obvious reasons. But even before our lives were tipped upside down the 2020 vintage in Margaret River had presented its own mysteries and unusual occurrences.

Another relatively dry winter was followed by the hottest and driest spring ever recorded in the South West. The region experienced the hottest October and November on record with all vine maturity stages being well advanced of normal. So much so that we harvested Chardonnay at Hay Shed Hill in January something we have never done before.

The heat of spring did not extend into summer with the summer of 2020 being relatively mild; in fact conditions were highly favourable during the early part of summer. It appears that the seasons have just shifted forward a month with an early onset of autumn in the middle of March. This early onset of autumn did not prove to be a problem as most vineyards were picked and finished well ahead of normal.

The fact that a hot spring followed a less than satisfactory winter compromised grape yields across all varieties with crop levels being for the second year in a row uniformly poor. While quantity was low quality cannot be doubted. The whites are fresh and crisply varietal and the reds are vibrant and ripe with that lovely medium body that is the signature of Margaret River.

THE WINE

In keeping with the tradition of great Bordeaux blends this wine is medium bodied with the emphasis placed on textural complexity and elegance rather than brute strength and depth of fruit. Classic Cabernet berry aromas with the all the flavour and textural complexity of the lesser well known, but crucial secondary varieties.

TECHNICAL

Growing Region: Margaret River

Alc Vol: 14.0%

Varieties: Cabernet Sauvignon 50%, Cabernet Franc 20%, Petit Verdot 18%, Malbec 10%, Merlot 2%.



HAY SHED HILL WINES

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