



# HAY SHED HILL

## MARGARET RIVER

### HAY SHED HILL 'World Series' MALBEC 2021

The Hay Shed Hill World Series wines highlight less well-known varieties in Australia, varieties from the old world finding a new expression of character. Famous as one of the traditional Bordeaux red grape varieties, Malbec is grown all over the world especially Argentina and now increasingly in Australia. Valued for its amazing depth of colour, generosity of fruit expression and fullness of flavour, Malbec has found the growing conditions of Margaret River ideally suited to producing full bodied wines of great depth and character- unsurprising considering the similar climatic conditions experienced by Bordeaux and Margaret River.

**VINTAGE:** The vintage of 2021 is a bit of a blur in the memory with constant decisions made on the fly at all hours of the day given the unusual weather conditions across Margaret River, and to a lesser extent the Great Southern of Western Australia.

It was a great start to the season with the first really wet winter for several years and therefore good soil moisture entering spring and summer. This is even more important for 'dry grown' (unirrigated) vineyards such as Hay Shed Hill. There were positive signs at budburst with potentially better crop levels than the last two years.

Spring was mild, the first grapes were harvested in the first week of February. There was a small break until the avalanche of Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon started. In this middle to late part of February and throughout March we experienced multiple episodes of rain, some of these falls being heavy. This sort of weather is rare in a Margaret River summer requiring harvest plans to be constantly reviewed and updated.

Given the conditions I am thrilled with the result, all whites and rosés were pristine and clean, perhaps a little lighter in body than many years but wonderfully fresh and pure in character.

When we got to reds in March and throughout April the challenges were greater. The requirement for full ripe fruit flavours and depth of body in red wine means the grapes need to be left on the vine longer therefore with increased risk. But we were protected by the wine gods and got all the reds off the vine before the season broke with a vengeance with heavy mid-April rainfall.

**WINEMAKING:** Hand harvested, open fermented (with 10% whole bunches) and hand plunged for 8 to 12 days in one and two tonne open fermenters then gently pressed off to finish fermentation. The finished wine was put to 100% French oak barriques for 12- 15 months maturation.

**COLOUR:** Dark, deep purple in colour and has a brooding and perfumed bouquet.

**PALATE:** The palate is rich, layered and textured- really fills the mouth with its immense power and weight, but retains its finesse with long, soft integrated tannins. This wine will cellar and improve for 8- 10 years, but equally appeals as an immediate drink.

#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Vintage: 2021		Growing Region: Margaret River
Variety: Malbec 100%		Alcohol: 13.5% Alc Vol.



HAY SHED HILL WINES

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