

HAY SHED HILL 'World Series' NEBBIOLO 2021

The Hay Shed Hill World Series wines highlight great grape varieties of the world grown in the distinctively Australian setting of Margaret River.

The classic grape of the Piedmont region of Italy, the variety of the renowned wines of Barolo and Barbaresco now showcased in the finest part of 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.

COLOUR: Nebbiolo is famous for its light colour depth with hues more in the tan to orange spectrum than the bright red, but with a surprisingly rich and textural palate of great complexity, often with a substantial tannin profile.

NOSE: Classic tar and tobacco characters with violet scents.

PALATE: In common with this variety in its homeland this wine is not overtly fruity as is common with most Australian red wine but is savoury, earthy and full of complex mouthfeel. Medium bodied it is light years away from the norm of Australian red wine. This is a wine for true wine lovers that are fascinated by the distinctive personality of the great classic grape varieties.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Vintage: 2021 Growing Region: Margaret River

Variety: Nebbiolo 100% | Alcohol: 13.0% Alc Vol.