

# HAY SHED HILL

MARGARET RIVER



## HAY SHED HILL PINOT NOIR ROSÉ 2023

The Hay Shed Hill Vineyard Series showcase the character of the fruit grown on this classic vineyard site with distinctive and expressive wines.



**VINTAGE:** The 2023 vintage was a throwback to the 1990's. A lovely wet winter opened to a mild spring with budburst in the early varieties being up to two weeks later than recent vintages. The spring weather was fine so the late budburst and slower development was not a problem for the early and mid season varieties, but it did cross a few minds that late season varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon might be very late indeed which always carries risk of rain.

However, such concerns were mollified as the season continued into March with fine weather and mild conditions that were ideal for steady, consistent ripening. Chardonnay came off a few weeks later than usual but in perfect condition and looked potentially to be the star variety of the whites.

The warning signals came in mid-March, when the evenings became noticeably cooler, the mornings crisp and definite physical signs of an early autumn were noticed. Slight changes in leaf colour in both the grapevines and the native plants indicated an early change of season. The weather patterns changed from a summer pattern to an Autumn system with cool fronts moving in from the South and the West. Shiraz, Malbec and Cabernet Franc were harvested before any rain, but the Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot had to withstand multiple brief rain falls before they were picked. Remarkably we suffered no problems with no signs of disease or rain damage in these late varieties.

It is perhaps counter-intuitive, but the milder season benefited these late varieties because we saw flavour, colour and tannin development far in advance of accumulated sugar very early in the season. To put it another way the reds were riper in a physiological sense than the sugar readings would suggest. We were able to pick Cabernet Sauvignon at a more modest potential alcohol but with full flavour and colour.

I believe we will see brilliant whites and mid bodied, more elegant reds from the 2023 vintage reminiscent of some of the great vintages in the 1990's. Michael Kerrigan, winemaker.

**WINEMAKING:** In keeping with the great tradition of European provincial rosé that gets consumed in every small village bar and café throughout the south of France, the Hay Shed Hill Pinot Noir Rosé is a dry savoury style of rosé that is ideally matched to modern Australian cuisine and lifestyle.

Made from 100% Pinot Noir grown on Block 7 of the Hay Shed Hill vineyard in Margaret River this old vine fruit produces depth of flavour and character while remaining light in body. The grapes were harvested at low potential alcohol and cold pressed to produce juice light in colour but of the highest quality. Fermented to dryness the wine was bottled as soon as possible to preserve the bright nature of the wine.

**COLOUR:** Vibrant light pink hues of great clarity.

**NOSE:** A savoury style of wine without the overt 'fruity' characters traditionally seen in Australian rosé this wine nevertheless exhibits the varietal notes of strawberries.

**PALATE:** Light bodied, savoury and refreshingly dry this wine displays good varietal carryover of strawberry notes from the Pinot Noir grapes. Vibrant and lively the palate is clean and dry with a slight graininess in texture typically seen in dry style rosé.

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Vintage:	2023		Growing Region:	Margaret River
Variety:	Pinot Noir 100%		Alcohol:	12.5% Alc. Vol.



HAY SHED HILL WINES

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