



HOWARD PARK
MARGARET RIVER & GREAT SOUTHERN

2022 HOWARD PARK A.S.W CABERNET SAUVIGNON SHIRAZ

Howard Park's winemaking philosophy is to craft elegant, age-worthy wines from our best sites in the Margaret River and Great Southern wine regions of Western Australia. Critical site selection, meticulous viticulture and detailed winemaking underline each Icon wine. In name, the Icon wines pay homage to significant members of the Burch family.

The A.S.W. is the first wine to acknowledge Amy Burch's side of the family. Co-owner Amy has been deeply involved in Howard Park from the very early days.

Coincidentally, Amy's parents share the initials, A.S.W. Her father, Alex Stephen Wee, was a successful Singaporean business person; a self-made man who arrived in Singapore from East Malaysia in 1946 with 1 Singapore dollar. Amy's mother, Annie Sheila Wee, had a cultural affinity with red wine due to her upbringing by French & Irish nuns as a boarder in Singapore. She still favours a glass of Shiraz to this day. The Wees came to Australia in the 1960s. Amy, is proud to commemorate her parents and the sum of all her family's efforts in this special wine.

TASTING NOTES

Deep, inky violet hues in the glass allude to the abundance of blue and black fruit present on the nose complemented by savoury undercurrents of wet slate, nori and cedar spice. The Cabernet Sauvignon components bring a bouquet of currants, both red and black, while the palate possesses pliable tannins and bright, lingering acidity. To balance, the Shiraz lends aromas of blueberries, boysenberries and baking spices with notes of black plum and cacao present on the palate. This classic Australian blend shows how these two iconic red varieties can work in harmony to craft a wine that is elegant, complex and approachable.

VINTAGE

In 2022, beautiful dry and sunny conditions were entrenched throughout January and February, removing a great deal of the disease pressure that rain and humidity can bring and allowing a predictable insight into ripening patterns across most varieties.

While summer set the scene for another consistent and memorable vintage, certain varieties paid a penalty for difficult conditions earlier in the growing season. The wet winter of 2021 lingered unduly, smothering the renewal of spring and delaying the onset of budburst and flowering in the vineyards. The consequence was reduced yields in our estate vineyards in the Great Southern.

Consistent fine weather at the tail end of the growing season ensured that the potential developed in the vines was maximised by picking at optimum levels of ripeness. Superb balance between sugar, acidity and flavour across all varieties gives us great optimism for the evolution of wines from the 2022 vintage.

VINEYARD

Decades of developing the Leston Vineyard as a premier site for red grape varieties has culminated in this fine wine, which is a blend from the best Cabernet and Shiraz sites of the Leston vineyard.

Location: Wilyabrup Soils: lateritic gravels
Aspect: Cabernet westerly and Shiraz north easterly
Clone: Houghton selection Cabernet, Shiraz unknown

WINEMAKING

The A.S.W. is a stylistic departure for Howard Park, being a red blend of all Margaret River fruit, and the only wine with a significant use of American oak.

Cabernet parcels are fermented in static fermenters fitted with heading down boards to maintain a submerged cap and gentle extract of flavour and tannins. The Shiraz parcels are fermented in 4t open fermenters with pneumatic pigeage and are retained on skins at the end of fermentation for several weeks. Matured separately in French oak for 18 months, before blending and then a further two months élevage in American oak after blending.

Varieties: Cabernet Sauvignon 70% Shiraz 30%

Region: Margaret River

Analysis: Alcohol: 14% v/v pH: 3.45 Acidity: 6.4 g/L Residual Sugar: 0.6 g/L

Cellaring: 10 to 15 years
