



HANDPICKED™ WINES



Awarded a Red 5 Star Winery Rating
by James Halliday Wine Companion

2015 Handpicked Collection Margaret River Cabernet Merlot



Serious Cabernet with a shot of easy-going Merlot; this wine demonstrates why Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot are perfect partners, as the Bordelais have known forever.

The Region: Margaret River is one of the most reliable wine growing regions in Australia and its monotonously glowing vintage reports can bring tears to the eyes of long-suffering vignerons in regions less favoured by Mother Nature.

This driftwood was collected from Margaret River, one of Australia's most reliable wine growing regions due to its relative isolation, unique microclimates and proximity to the ocean on three sides.

The Wine: Cabernet's structure and depth are complemented by Merlot's juicy fruit, texture and soft tannin in this classy wine. It's easy to see why Margaret River is internationally renowned for this wine style.

Technical Info: After a string of excellent vintages, Margaret River vignerons were presented with some challenges in 2015, with generally low yields and high bird numbers causing problems in some areas. Good rains throughout winter 2014 set up adequate ground water, which proved fortuitous over the dry season. It was an early season for whites, but rains in March put the brakes on for red wine varieties and allowed an ideal slow, extended ripening period. Yields were below-average but quality was excellent.

The fruit was picked in cool, dry conditions in mid-April and vinified in open and closed static fermenters with hand plunging and pumping over. The wine was matured for 18 months in a mix of old and new French barriques from a selection of the best Bordeaux coopers.