



Flametree
MARGARET RIVER

LIMITED RELEASE 2022 CABERNETS BLEND

2022 Vintage

A cool, winter-like spring saw the vines off to slow start. Spring rainfall was quite significant but thankfully things dried up and then got warm quickly. In the end we had a hot, dry summer, with sustained high temperature days and moderate to warm nights through December, January and February, possibly influenced by another La Niña season. Naturally this resulted in rapid ripening for all white varieties, with all vineyards harvested in little over a month. Fruit quality was excellent with surprising delicacy and elegance. A low yielding vintage, primarily due to spring conditions over the past two years.

Vineyards

The fruit for our Flametree Q Cabernet blend was sourced from vineyards in the Yallingup, Wilyabrup and Treeton sub-regions of Margaret River. The core of the wine is Cabernet Sauvignon from the Springfield vineyard on Commonage Road in Yallingup, the Hannaford Vineyard in Wilyabrup and the Victory Point vineyard in Treeton. The Cabernet Sauvignon was complemented with some Peccavi Merlot, Knotting Hill Malbec, Anniebrook Cabernet Franc and Peccavi Petit Verdot. All vineyards offer some degree of north facing aspect, are grown on gravelly-loam soils and produce moderate crops with small berries and bunches, perfect for the type of concentrated flavours that are optimal for this style of wine in a vintage like 2022.

Winemaking

All fruit parcels spent a few days cold soaking on skins before commencing ferment with a Bordeaux yeast strain in open top fermenters and we used a combination of hand plunging and pump-overs for balanced tannin extraction. Individual batches were fermented around 22-28 degrees, pressed and then transferred into second, third and fourth use French oak barrels for maturation. Being a warm season we chose not to leave the wines on skins and press batches off quickly after primary ferment, this kept the wines fresh and perfumed. After 9 months in barrel the 2022 Flametree Q Cabernet blend was blended and bottled.

Tasting Notes

The nose is typically aromatic, showing mulberry, cassis, redcurrant, plum and chocolate notes. The palate shows elegant varietal Cabernet fruit in the cassis and mulberry spectrum supported by fine chocolatey tannins. Cabernet provides great fragrance, complexity and structure whilst the other Bordeaux varieties add colour, tannin, perfume and further complexity. This wine can be consumed now or cellared with confidence over the medium term.

Technical Notes

Blend	75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, 7% Petit Verdot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 3% Malbec.		
Alcohol	14.0%	Acidity	6.20 g/L
pH	3.49	RS	0.40