

2015 Petit Lot Malbec Petit Verdot

Each year Chris cane prunes the vines with his focus firmly on seeing the vines reach their full potential and encapsulate the year that was within the fruit. Not every vine is pruned identically, the process is altered depending on the vine and what Chris feels it needs. It can easily be forgotten but it takes 12 months to produce a wine, a wine that is alive and tells a story of a year on our little farm. Drinking this wine we are taken back to a wonderfully warm and dry vintage, very low yields of 3.2 tonnes per hectare are expressed through the opulence of the fruit.

The two varieties are planted in our main block side by side. A North South orientation, with the soil being more of a red loam heading down to clay and gravel over a granite bedrock. The depth and intensity of the fruit characters from these varieties is outstanding. A Vibrant, rich dark red/purple colour this wine shows violets, brooding blue/black berry and tobacco aromas complemented by a lick of five spice. Incredibly rich, voluptuous dark berry fruits, leather and dark cacao. Soft, refined tannins and oak are seamlessly integrated with balanced acidity.

2015 Vintage

Unusually strong winds in spring blew off some of the flowers, naturally thinning out the number of bunches in the vines and subsequently resulting in lower than average yields at harvest. December and January saw nice even ripening conditions with warm days and fairly low night time temperatures, which helped the grapes to retain their natural acidity. March and April saw a few sporadic showers before two weeks of heavy rain right around Easter. Owing to the fact that all our vines are unirrigated we were fortunate enough to get all of our fruit perfectly ripe and off the vines just in time before the rain came. In fact, the last of our Cabernet was picked the day before it started pouring. However, the already low yields were further reduced by much greater than normal bird pressure even though all of our vines were netted. It was a perfect storm scenario with big bushfires southeast of Margaret River, which saw an increased number of birds temporarily migrating to the region, and the native trees blossoming much later than they usually do, which led to much bird damage across the region. The quality of the fruit that was left alone, however, was excellent thus compensating for the small overall yield of the vintage. All in all, the 2015 vintage can be summed up as one of the smallest in recent history, but nonetheless one of exceptional quality.