

2016 Petit Lot Malbec

We have only 3 rows of Malbec, 450 vines to be exact. The rows are planted to a North South orientation located on our Home Block, an Ironstone/Laterite ridge which rises in the middle of the property and runs in an Easterly direction to the back. This is a unique ridge within our area that is the highest point on our property and provides for excellent drainage. The vines were planted in 1999 and have now reached maturity and express not only the characteristics of the variety but also our terroir. Gloriously supple dark fruits, cassis, mulberry, black cherry and plum are complemented by cinnamon and freshly grated nutmeg. A beautiful concentration of fruits with a hint of Serrano and a striking dusty earthiness whilst maintaining its freshness.

Past Vintage Ratings

2014 | 95/100 James Halliday

2014 | 94/100 Mike Bennie

2016 Vintage

After a relatively warm start to the season this year's harvest began on February 9th, so roughly around the same time as the previous year. Full flavour development, however, occurred at lower Baumés than in previous years and with acid levels still very high- both factors that very much suit the style of wine we make. After all the white varieties had been picked over the course of just 6 days, the weather turned and became noticeably cooler, which meant a fairly long break before the reds were fully ripe and ready to be harvested. This drawn out cooler ripening period resulted in great flavour and tanning development at very low Baumés across all red varieties. At 20 years of age our old Cabernet vines are now showing noticeably less vigour than they have in the past, but the quality of the fruit we've been getting off them has been truly impressive. In the winery Chris has therefore been working hard on fine-tuning his selection of barrels for what we expect will be remembered as an exceptional red wine vintage, even by the consistently high standards we have become used to here in Margaret River.