



Flametree
MARGARET RIVER

2018 S.R.S. WALCLIFFE SYRAH

S.R.S. stands for Sub Regional Series. Carefully selected individual grape varieties that excel within a certain sub-region. These wines represent the very best varietal wines under the Flametree Wines label and will only be made in the best vintages, volumes will be small and availability very limited. Exceptional in quality, complexity and finesse.



2018 Vintage

2018 was another idyllic vintage in Margaret River. The season began with a nice even budburst after average winter rainfall. A mild spring followed ensuring good flowering and fruit set. A moderate start to summer, with no heat extremes, set up the harvest well with all varieties displaying flavour intensity and bright acidity. There was an abundance of Marri blossom which meant bird pressure was practically non-existent whilst all grapes were harvested. In summary 2018 will be remembered as an outstanding Margaret River vintage!

Vineyards

The 2018 S.R.S. Syrah was made exclusively from 27yo Shiraz grapes purchased off the Chapman Grove vineyard; a vineyard long renowned for growing elegant and highly perfumed Shiraz fruit. The vineyard is situated on classic Margaret River gravel loam soils and faces in a southerly direction which avoids the harsh afternoon heat.

Winemaking

Most of the fruit was selectively machine harvested and tipped straight into open fermenters. This year we added small amounts of whole bunch fruit and sun dried stalks, both designed to give added complexity and spice. The dried stems were placed in the bottom of the open fermenter and the whole berries were then poured over the stalks. After a short soak the wild ferment kicked in. Once the ferment was active we started to plunge and foot stomp the whole berries and dried stems. After ferment was complete we pressed the skins and transferred the wine into 20% new French oak puncheons for 15 months maturation.

Tasting Notes

This unashamedly medium bodied Syrah shows lovely lifted spice, clove, orange peel, liquorice, plum, blackberry and earthy notes. The palate displays a wonderful core of elegant blue/black fruits, spice and fine tannins. The lifted fruits on the nose are supported by a core of dark berries and spicy oak tannin. Drinking well at the moment the wine will develop added complexity over the next 6 months and then age gracefully for 10 years or more. 2018 was simply one of the greatest ever red vintages in Margaret River's relatively short 50 year history.

Technical Specifications

Blend	100% Margaret River Shiraz
Alcohol	14.6%
Acidity	5.95g/L
pH	3.55