



Flametree
MARGARET RIVER

FRANKLAND RIVER SHIRAZ 2018

2018 Vintage

2018 was an idyllic vintage throughout the whole of Western Australia. 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 varieties displaying great flavour intensity and bright acidity. There was an abundance of Marri blossom which meant bird pressure was practically non-existent whilst 2018 grapes were harvested. In summary 2018 will be remembered as an outstanding Frankland River vintage!

Vineyards

The 2018 Frankland Shiraz is a single vineyard wine from the Powderbark Ridge vineyard. The Powderbark Ridge fruit displays plenty of pepper and spice combined with a core of dark red fruits. These vineyards are planted on gravel loam and have a history of growing moderate crops with small berries and good fruit concentration.

Winemaking

The machine harvested fruit was destemmed and then conveyed into half tonne bins to avoid crushers and must pumps. These bins were tipped into 6 tonne open fermenters, sulphured and given 4-5 days cold soak. After cold soak we gradually let the must warm up before the wild ferment kicked in. We then plunged the cap twice a day and kept the ferment below 25 degrees. We inoculated for MLF, pressed and then transferred into 26% new and 74% older French oak barrels and puncheons. We left the pressed wine on fine ferment lees in barrel to add a little complexity, texture and flavour. After 15 months in oak the 2018 Shiraz was fined and bottled.

Tasting Notes

Lifted blueberry, plums, liquorice, fruit cake and spice combine to create a flavoursome, well-structured and age-worthy wine. The colour and perfume are testament to a fantastic Shiraz vintage. Soft extraction techniques using open fermenters have resulted in a wine with ripe fruit flavours and fine tannin structure. The lees contact has given the wine a nice savoury edge and added complexity. The palate has plenty of dark fruits, earthiness, graphite, beef stock, leather and spicy oak flavours. Aged in tight grained French oak barrels for 15 months, this wine will benefit from cellaring for up to 10 years.

Technical Specifications

Blend	100% Frankland River Shiraz
Alcohol	14.6%
Acidity	5.98g/L
pH	3.57

