



Woodlands Cabernet Franc - Merlot

Margaret River - Australia 2014

Woodlands vineyard was established in 1973 by David & Heather Watson on Caves Road in Wilyabrup, and was one of the first five vineyards to be planted in the Margaret River Wine Region. David and Heather aimed to create wines to emulate the great vineyards of Bordeaux.

Woodlands came to fame early on with the release of the 1981 'Andrew' Cabernet Sauvignon. This wine won trophies for 'Best Red Wine' at the Perth Wine Show, the Mt Barker Wine Show, and the National Wine Show. This wine was the first from Margaret River to achieve a National Red Wine Trophy.

There are iconic vineyards throughout the world where you can literally 'see' greatness. Think about Niederhäuser Hermannshöhle, Reynard, Montrachet, Pétrus, Monfortino, Romanée-Conti, etc. Woodlands is a vineyard when you look at the surrounding areas of Margaret River, it just exudes greatness. So much of the area sits on lower lying and almost concave soils while woodlands ascends into the horizon with the Indian Ocean just a mile to the west.

2014 marks the seventh vintage of this Cheval Blanc inspiration. This wine is simply put, sublime, and a steal for the price. The rest of Australia (and the world for that matter) has to be insanely jealous of the picture perfect growing conditions year after year in Margaret River and 2014 is certainly no exception. It was a year of consistent warmth, perfect for producing balanced wines.

The Cabernet Franc-Merlot is produced from the newer Woodlands Brook Vineyard, located just a shade over a mile north east of Woodlands. The vineyard faces gently to the northwest, and the soil is composed of Bordeaux-like soil of quartz, gravel and loam over clay. This vineyard, like Woodlands, is unirrigated.

Composition

52% Cabernet Franc, 43% Merlot and 5% Malbec

Soil Type

Sandy Loam & Gravel

Élevage

10 months in French barrique

Vine Age

13 years old

Yield

2.5 tons per acre

Production

500 cases

Tasting Notes

“ The palate of this wine is playful and energetic, with lovely lifted primary Cabernet Franc characters of briar patch and raspberry combining with blackcurrant from the Merlot and a touch of white spice from the Malbec. The finish is fine, with bright acidity and vibrancy. ”

Reviews

James Suckling | 90 points

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