



## Woodlands Cabernet Sauvignon - Merlot Wilyabrup Valley - Australia 2016

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.

2016 was a stellar vintage, and certainly one that will reward extended cellaring. Winter rainfall was lower than average, October was warm and dry, and flowering was short. A heavy deluge of rain in mid-January was appreciated, and dry mild conditions continued through an extended ripening period.

The 2016 Wilyabrup Valley blend comprises 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 11% Malbec, 1.5% Petit Verdot and 0.5% Cabernet Franc, and has matured in French oak for 14 months. Like all Woodlands wines, the Cabernet Merlot is produced solely from the Wilyabrup Valley, an area located in the heart of the Margaret River region with sandy loam soils, excellent drainage, and a moderate to warm climate.

The grapes were picked in small batches from the 28th of February to the 21st of May. Following the harvest, once the berries were destemmed and sorted, the fruit was crushed and fermented in small stainless steel fermenting tanks. Once fermentation was complete, the wine was transferred into French oak barrels where it remained for 14 months.

### Composition

46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 11% Malbec and 1.5% Petit Verdot  
0.5% Cabernet Franc

### Soil Type

Sandy Loam & Gravel

### Élevage

14 months in neutral French barrique

### Yield

2 tons per acre

### Production

500 cases

### Tasting Notes

“ In the glass, the wine displays a vibrant garnet. The nose opens to display bright varietal characters of blackcurrant, combined with subtle lifted aromatics of strawberries and the floral scent of rose. Deeper layers then emerge bringing black tea, aniseed, maple and cocoa. At the heart of the nose lies the beauty of fresh clay, capturing the essence of the earth itself. The palate has the zing of raspberry and some spiciness of black pepper and gentle oak. ”

### Reviews

None

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