



## Woodlands

2016

# 'MARGARET'

Red Wine | Margaret River - Australia



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

## Stats

**Grapes:** 67% Cabernet Sauvignon -  
17% Merlot - 16% Malbec

**Vineyard:** Woodlands Estate Vineyard  
- 70% New Block - 30% Old Block

**Vine Age:** 31-43-years-old (Old Block)  
- 13-17-years-old (New Block)

**Soil Type:** Gravelly, sandy loam over  
calcaerous clay

**Viticulture:** Certified Organic - dry-  
farmed

**Fermentation:** Native - stainless-  
steel tanks

**Skin Contact:** 2 weeks (Malbec &  
Merlot) - 35 days (Cabernet  
Sauvignon)

**Aging:** 18 months in French barrique  
(50% new)

**Alcohol:** 14.1%

**Total Production:** 2,000 cases

**UPC:** 9336111000235

## Reviews

Halliday Wine Companion | 96 points

James Suckling | 94 points

The Wine Front | 95 points

## About

While not the most 'acclaimed' wine from Woodlands, as that historically would fall to the 'Estate' Cabernet Sauvignon, 'Margaret' is the wine that best captures the soul and spirit of Woodlands. The Cabernet Sauvignon portion comes from a slope on the south of Woodlands that wraps around a 90-degree radius from east to north. The fruit on this slope receives a great deal of direct sunlight from morning to mid-afternoon, leading to rich full-bodied wines. The Merlot and Malbec plots that make up the remainder of 'Margaret' come from our west-facing slope of deep loam soil. This slope receives the most direct afternoon sunlight at Woodlands, and produces more exotic fruit characters in the finished wine. The Watson's believe 2016 may go down in history as Margaret River's greatest vintage. A perfect warm summer was interrupted by 3-4 inches of rain in mid-January, after which the great conditions continued. The unirrigated vines loved the drink, and went on to produce wines of class and restrained power, balanced by great natural acidity - particularly so for Cabernet Sauvignon vines.

Following harvest, the fruit was destemmed, hand sorted, crushed and fermented in small stainless steel fermenters. Following a native yeast fermentation, the Merlot and Malbec were pressed to French barriques, 25-33% new. The Cabernet Sauvignon remained on skins for a total an additional three weeks for added complexity and tannin integration. The Cabernet was then pressed into French barriques, 60% of which is new, for a long aging process.

## Tasting Note

Deep garnet. The nose displays fresh mulberries interweaved with blackberry compote, cherry and violet. Quite lifted and vibrant, the nose also hints at a little sweetness in the form of toffee apple. The palate reveals a wine of subtle power, showing an array of dark fruits, cacao bean, orange zest, star anise, and hints of black pepper. The palate is driven, beautifully layered and finishes with bright energetic acidity.