

HOWARD PARK



FINE WINES
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

HOWARD PARK 'SCOTSDALE' SHIRAZ 2001



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TECHNICAL NOTES

The 2001 grapegrowing season was as close to perfect as could be expected. A very dry 2000 winter left us with some of the lowest water supplies on record. The dry winter gave way to some early spring rains and then an almost completely rain free summer growing season. Weather conditions highly unfavourable for grain and pasture farmers were ideal for grapegrowers for whom rain during vintage is the enemy. Temperatures were warm without being too hot; yields were good without being excessive. It was a season in which the decision to pick was made according to the flavour and tannin development in the grape rather than the prospect of impending rain. Shiraz on the vine showed intense colour and flavour with mature tannin promising outstanding wine if we got it right in the winery.

The grapes are harvested according to flavour with little regard for analytical data, fermentation occurs in open topped stainless steel tanks with highly aerative pumpovers that are integral in tannin development.

At completion of fermentation, the Shiraz is pressed off into French oak barriques of which about 60% are new, the balance being one year old. There was minimal fining and filtration performed.

TASTING NOTES

A deep dark wine with a youthful purple rim. The nose again highlights the essential difference between Margaret River Shiraz and Great Southern Shiraz with the dominant aromas being earthy and spicy rather than of primary fruit. Fruit there certainly is with lovely ripe cherries but the characters that define the wine are herbs and spices; cloves and black pepper. The palate is stunning, amazingly complete for such a young wine, rich and seamless with great concentration but lightness and freshness. Good flavour extension is supported by powdery tannins. This is a wine of merit.

VARIETY

2001'Scotsdale' Shiraz

REGION

Great Southern



HOWARD PARK WINES

Margaret River & Great Southern
Western Australia

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www.howardparkwines.com