RESERVE COLLECTION

2021 Wilyabrup Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon



Fermoy has earned its place in the Margaret River wine story, quietly building a reputation for crafting critically acclaimed wines of refinement, precision and elegance.

Founded in 1985, Fermoy's first vintage was a resounding success, confirming Wilyabrup as the 'sweet spot' of Margaret River. Grown in an enviable location by the Wilyabrup Brook, Fermoy's fruit ripens in conditions beautifully moderated by the nearby Indian Ocean. A mild, Mediterranean climate, afternoon sea breeze and ancient gravel soils make it perfect for growing Bordeaux and Burgundy grape varieties.

The winery experienced a revival under new ownership and the stewardship of senior winemaker Jeremy Hodgson. Jeremy's expertise brought a renewed focus on sustainability, small-batch winemaking and crafting site expressive wines, positioning Fermoy for its rise to global recognition.

With consistently beautiful fruit, a stellar winemaking team and enviable location, Fermoy's name as a world-class producer will continue to grow.

Wine Name	Wilyabrup Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon
Vintage	2021 – a cooler vintage by Margaret River standards resulting in wines with heightened aromatics and bright natural acids.
Varieties (%)	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Sub Region	Wilyabrup, Margaret River
Alcohol Volume	14.0%
Acidity	pH 3.51 / TA 6.34 g/L
Residual Sugar	0.31 g/L
Oak Detail	18 months maturation in a combination of new (46%) and seasoned French oak barriques.
Winemaking	Houghton clone material sourced from 36 year-old vines on our Estate vineyard – handpicked fruit was destemmed to open fermenter, prior to cold soak, with a controlled ferment allowing for considered and gentle maceration on skins. Wine spent up to 3 weeks on skins, with MLF complete before pressing to tank for a quick settle prior to racking to oak. Wines then spent the next 18 months in barrel with no racking or movement – just a monthly topping. Cabernet blends were assembled in December 2022 according to barrel selection, prior to a light egg fining, long-term settle in tank and filtration before bottling in April 2023.
Cellaring	Tannins are plentiful – providing a structural framework to the wine and ensuring good cellaring potential of 20+ years, however they are sufficiently fine and elegant to allow for immediate enjoyment.

Appearance	Rich plum red with black tints.
Aroma	Vibrant aromas of boysenberry, redcurrant and cassis fruits lead into cocoa and cedar spice with savoury notes of rosemary and tea leaf.
Palate	Finely structured and elegant, this medium weighted wine displays an innate power whilst retaining delicacy and poise. Fine spun tannins carry ripe, succulent, perfumed fruits of boysenberry and raspberry across the palate, while rosemary and sage freshness and savoury spice add intrigue and complexity. Beautifully ripe fruit tannins and tight-grained French oak provide tension, structure, form and length to ensure a beautifully elegant finish.
Food Pairing	Roasted rack of lamb with rosemary-salted, crispy, duck fat potatoes.
Awards & Ratings	**96 Points.** Gold medal – 2024 Decanter World Wine Awards; **95 Points.** Gold medal – 2023 Melbourne Royal Wine Awards.

Est. 1985. Wilyabrup, Margaret River

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96 Points, Judges comments, 2024 Decanter World Wine Awards.

"A superb perfume of dark plum, black cherry and blackcurrant intermingled with elegant potpourri and a fresh violet floral poise all framed by perfectly executed oak. Wow!"

95 Points, Ray Jordan Wine Review

"A stylish and seamlessly presented cabernet from this slightly cooler Margaret River vintage. It displays the refinement and elegance of the year, while retaining power and intensity. Bright red and black fruits are integrated with olive, oyster shell, and a hint of bay leaf. Currently tight and controlled, it will benefit from long-term cellaring."

95 Points, Jane Faulkner, Halliday Wine Companion, 25 November 2024

"A difficult season, '21, and this has plenty of herbal inflections yet is also a powerful and structured wine. It has a presence. It starts with appealing, heady aromas – all cassis, blackberries, smoky oolong tea, then Aussie bush and Moroccan mint, plus lots of cedary oak. Richly flavoured with pops of black plums and mulberries, licorice, mocha and nori – archetypal Margaret River cabernet flavours matched to plentiful tannins, yet still somewhat astringent across the full-bodied palate. It has been aged 18 months in French barriques, 45% new, and that's having a big impact – both on flavour and tannins – so it needs more time to gel. It is coming together but cellar now because optimum drinking comes later; try again in a couple of years. Drink 2026-2036."

94 Points, Cassandra Charlick, Decanter Magazine, 8 June 2024

"Vibrant red berries laced with lovely vanilla oak and mixed spice, bush undergrowth, rosemary and pencil shavings. Palate has firm fruit and good intensity. Tannins are supple and structural. Acid lifts and splays the fruit on full display. Blackcurrant fringed with hibiscus and tea leaf spice. A firm handshake of a wine that will age well and offer much more with time. Drink 2024-2040."

94 Points, Stuart Knox, The Real Review, 02 Oct 2024

"Medium to deep ruby red in the glass. Blackberry, violets and cedar wood aromas. The palate sits with intensity yet poised and flowing with seamless integration of dark berry fruit into dusty earth and wood shaving savoury components. Great length, all carried by finely wrought gravelly tannins. Will reward cellaring handsomely. Drink 2024-2039."

93+ Points, Erin Larkin, The Wine Advocate, 6 July 2023

"The 2021 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is tight and fine, and still one and a bit vintages away from release onto the local market. The wine will ease into itself in that time, so the release cycle makes sense here. Tightly wound cassis, boysenberry and graphite define the nose in this 2021 Reserve Cabernet, and the palate plays out with tension definition. There is rapier cut and thrust here. It parries, too. It is pretty, with loads of raspberry fruit and choc/malt oak. Lovely wine. Will be better. 14% alcohol, sealed under screw cap. Drink 2023-2043."

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