### HOWARD PARK



FINE WINES Western Australia

# SINGLE VINEYARD SERIES 2011 LESTON SHIRAZ

The Howard Park single vineyard regional concept is designed to highlight the distinctive regional and site characteristics of Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz from our best vineyard sites in the two premier West Australian grape growing regions of Margaret River and the Great Southern.

#### The 2011 Season

2011 was an excellent vintage in the Margaret River region. A warm and dry spring was followed by a summer punctuated with perfectly timed rain events but otherwise low in humidity. The autumn harvest period was dry and protracted with vintage conditions best described as on the warm side of perfect. The resulting red wines have definitive varietal expression, rich fruit power and fine tannins.

#### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

Harvest of the 2011 Leston Shiraz blocks occurred in the middle of March.

Vinification occurs in both open vat and closed stainless steel fermenters with diligent cap management to extract fine fruit tannin and strong varietal flavour.

Select parcels of wine were run to barrel at 2 to 3° Be to capture new barrel characters from the final few degrees of fermentation .The remaining blocks were pressed at dryness to retain fruit vibrancy. Barrel maturation occurs in 40 % new and 60% older barriques of which 95% are French oak and 5 % American oak. 18 months in oak, is ample time to achieve the thorough integration of oak and grape tannins.

After pressing, each batch is matured separately in order to build a wine history over time. The wine was blended in September 2012 from a selection of the best Shiraz blocks on the Leston vineyard.

After egg white fining and light filtration, the wine was bottled in December 2012.

#### TASTING NOTES

Colour: Vibrant dark raspberry.

**Bouquet:** Expansive aromas of poached plums, blueberry muffins, star anise, violets and mocha. **Palate:** A mix of rich and plump poached winter fruits, ginger spice and chewy tannins.

Margaret River in style with a sweet fruit expression and open weave tannin structure that ably support this generously proportioned wine.

## HOWARD PARK 'Leston' Shiraz 2011



VARIETY Shiraz

REGION Margaret River

CELLARING 7 - 10 years

#### Analyses

Alcohol: 14%v/v pH: 3.64 Acidity: 5.8g.lt Residual Sugar: 0.6g/lt



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Margaret River & Great Southern Western Australia

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