

# 2016 CLASSIC DRY RED

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A soft and sumptuous Margaret River Shiraz. Vasse Felix Classics are fruit-driven, approachable styles that have become some of Australia's most popular everyday classics since their inception in the 1980s.

## TASTING NOTES

**APPEARANCE** Pale ruby to purple hue.

**NOSE** Blueberries and raspberries burst out in a pretty confectionery lift that is balanced by pastry notes and a deeper earthy quality.

**PALATE** The wine has a juicy, fresh red plum and raspberry opening with apparent fruit sweetness, balanced by a fine tannin structure. A light, savoury, earthy flavour adds an extra dimension, without intruding on the elegant lines and succulent length.

## WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The individual batches were crushed separately into stainless steel fermentation vessels. They were pressed off skins early to maintain a soft, succulent mouth feel. The resulting wine was matured in barriques for 12 months, with the incorporation of traditional oxidative handling, to soften and round the tannin profile and add further aroma and flavour complexity.

## VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Moderate spring conditions at the end of 2015 helped establish a healthy fruitset and better yields than the previous two seasons. January temperatures were warm, interrupted by one rainfall event late in the month, great viticulture management, clean, well-trimmed canopies and subsequent warm weather prevented disease risk. White varieties were harvested throughout February with elegant flavours and bright natural acidity.

**VARIETIES** 100% Shiraz

**HARVESTED** March - April 2016

**OAK** 100% French Oak, 12 months (1-5 year old)

**TA** 5.9g/L **PH** 3.63

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** 1.1g/L

**ALCOHOL** 14.0%

**BOTTLED** August 2017

**CELLARING** Drinks beautifully now, made to enjoy in its youth