

2013 TOM CULLITY



Vasse Felix, Margaret River's founding wine estate, was established by Dr Thomas Brendan Cullity in 1967. Among his first plantings were Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec vines, from which he produced the estate's first red wine. The Tom Cullity descends from these original vines and represents the pinnacle of Vasse Felix. The inaugural release will be in May 2017, coinciding with Vasse Felix's 50th Anniversary.

TASTING NOTES

APPEARANCE Deep maroon with a brick and purple tint.

NOSE Rather savoury to start with meaty mushroom, nori, salty sea breeze, graphite and spicy cedar notes. Opens beautifully with cherry pip, cassis, Christmas cake, orange rind, pot pourri and hints of Australian forest floor.

PALATE A remarkable, refined, soft, elegant and almost creamy Cabernet style with sublime tannin and mouthfeel. The flavour is full, yet elevated and carries cherry, cassis, hints of cinotto, cedar and chocolate. It finishes juicy, while fine and dry.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

All fruit was grown in Vasse Felix's Home Vineyard. Fruit parcels were picked in small blocks and fermented with 100% wild yeasts. 52% was static fermented and macerated on skins for more than 20 days. 48% was open fermented and macerated for 10-15 days on skins. The wine was fined with egg whites and racked before minimal filtration to bottle.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Moderate spring temperatures accompanied by low solar radiation and cool soil conditions contributed to slower vine growth and increased disease pressure. Thankfully, a consistently warm and dry summer ensured clean canopies and another early start to the white harvest. Rapidly cooling weather in March allowed extended ripening time for the reds and more traditional harvest timing through late March into April.

VARIETIES 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Malbec, 4% Petit Verdot

HARVESTED Mid March - early April 2013

OAK 100% French oak, 18 months (61% New, 39% 1-4 year old).

TA 6.9g/L **PH** 3.45

RESIDUAL SUGAR 0.55g/L

ALCOHOL 14.5%

BOTTLED February 2015

CELLARING Medium to long term