

FERNGROVE

GREAT SOUTHERN
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WINE NAME	Ferngrove Black Label Merlot
VINTAGE	2020
WINE STYLE	Medium-bodied red wine.
GRAPE VARIETY	Merlot
GROWING REGION	Frankland River, Western Australia.
TECHNICAL DETAILS	Alc 13.5% pH 3.68 TA 5.19g/L
VINTAGE	Vintage 2020 will be remembered as the earliest harvest on record with great fruit quality. The growing season started warm and very dry. Spring rainfall was also below average and our soils were quite dry as the vines came out of dormancy and watering commenced earlier than normal. These dry conditions kept disease pressure low which was a positive, but also led to lower vine vigour compared to other years. The favourable weather for the remainder of the ripening period meant we had an “early” vintage, with reds of amazing colour and intensity.
APPEARANCE	Intense, inky crimson red with an attractive purple hue.
NOSE	Ripe blackberry and black cherry with brooding dark fruits.
PALATE	A rich, intense merlot with lingering persistence of flavour. Full ripe, firm tannins and very subtle cedar, French oak nuances.
VINIFICATION	Merlot was harvested in the early morning and crushed to closed red fermenters. At this point the fruit is cold soaked, then inoculated for ferment before post ferment maceration. Wine was drained to one and two year old French oak for 18 months maturation.
CELLARING	Will benefit from careful cellaring for up to 8 years.
WINEMAKERS COMMENTS	A surprisingly intense wine that highlights the deep concentration of reds produced from the 2020 vintage. This is a Merlot that has ripe fruit characters, but is yet soft and highly approachable in its youth.
SERVE	At room temperature 18C.
FOOD	Serve with hearty beef stew or osso bucco.

