

# STELLA BELLA

## 2017 Cabernet Merlot



### Appearance

Dark red hues.

### Aroma

Mulberries and satsuma plums lift out of the glass in an explosive fashion. Followed by aromas of red currants, cherries and cranberries with a touch of vanilla spice and a hint of smokiness.

### Palate

Juicy, medium bodied and full of flavour. Mulberries and raspberry coulis fill the palate, complemented by gravelly tannins and subtle vanillin oak. The refreshing acidity balances the supple tannin and red fruits for an extremely smash-able wine that leaves you wanting more.

### Enjoyment

A platter of freshly shaved meats of your choice.

### Wine Specs

Blend	68% Cabernet 27% Merlot 5% Malbec
Oak	10% New
Cellar	Now to 2028
Alcohol	13.9%
pH	3.54
Acidity	5.96

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This Cabernet Merlot packs a punch! Bright and charming, the perfume of Cabernet Sauvignon strikes you first, followed swiftly by its precise and structured palate. With its partner in crime Merlot providing the palate weight, with fruit generosity and richness.

### Place

Our Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot vines are planted throughout our collection of southern Margaret River vineyards with the majority coming from the Isca vineyard. The cabernet from this site is intense and perfumed, whilst the Merlot is open and voluptuous, resulting in a soft generous wine.

### Vintage 2017

Cooler temperatures and some unusual rainfall required diligent viticulture to ensure the fruit was in perfect condition. This resulted in the development of ripe flavours at low sugar levels and high natural acidity in white varieties, providing the perfect balance to an create aromatic and precise wine.

### Winemaking

The Cabernet Sauvignon component was held on skins for 10 days to help build structure. The Merlot and Malbec was pressed earlier to retain bright fruit aromatics. 10% new French oak was used to complement the fruit while providing some subtle mocha and vanillin oak sweetness. 14 months maturation in oak and tank.