

# STELLA BELLA

## 2021 Cabernet Merlot



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.

### Appearance

Dark red hues.

Abundant aromas of...

Satsuma plums, strawberries and red cherries lift out of the glass. Backed by delicate hints of tobacco leaf and subtle vanilla.

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### Palate

Soft and supple and full of flavour. Cherry red fruits and candied fennel seed are accompanied by silky, soft tannins that coat the palate. 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	73% Cabernet 20% Merlot 7% Malbec
Oak	10% New
Cellar	5+ years
Alcohol	13.8%
pH	3.50
Acidity	5.99

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### Place

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

### Vintage 2021

We were challenged, battered and bruised, a couple of far north cyclones and a dearth of vintage workers made this a vintage to remember. But with the expertise of our vineyard crew, a program of shoot thinning, leaf plucking and bunch thinning made sure that we emerged triumphant with reds that are highlighted by crisp natural acidity and ripe fruit flavours.

### Winemaking

The Cabernet Sauvignon component was held on skins for 10 days to help build structure. The Merlot 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. 12 months maturation in oak and tank.