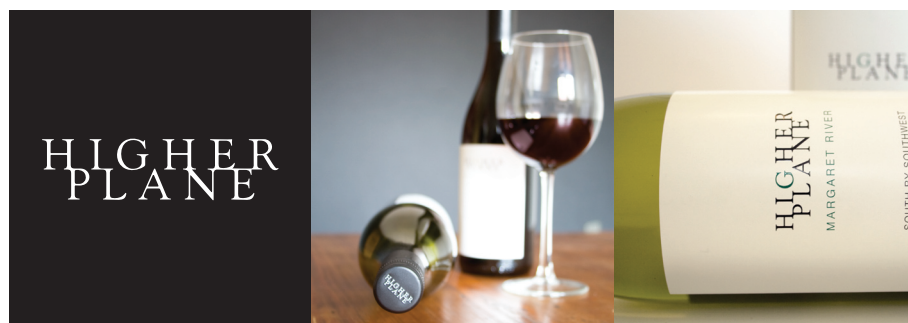


The 2008 vintage enjoyed plenty of sunshine resulting in close to perfect autumn ripening allowing for long hang time on the vine. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot grapes easily achieved both flavour and tannin ripeness and had balanced crops and canopies. The Cabernet Franc at Higher Plane responded well to the favourable weather conditions and made a lovely fragrant wine and a small amount was blended in with the Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.

The 2008 Higher Plane South by Southwest Cabernet Merlot is made as a bright fruit driven style with very moderate oak influence. It is a wine to enjoy over the next 7 years.

VARIETY	Cabernet Sauvignon 67%, Merlot 26%, Cabernet Franc 7%	REGION	Margaret River 100%
VINTAGE	2008	OAK	15% new French barriques
PICKING DATE	5 to 30 March, machine & hand picked	MONTHS IN OAK	14
BAUMÉ	13.0 to 13.9 Be°	ALCOHOL	14.3%
YIELD	4 to 8 t/Ha	pH	3.67
TRELLIS	VSP	TA	5.9 g/L
FERMENT	10 to 35 days pumped over	RS	<1.0 g/L
MLF	100%	BOTTLED	Nov 2009
YEAST	F15 & BDX	PRODUCTION	680 cases



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