

FREEMAN VINEYARDS

Freeman Vineyards is located in the Hilltops region of New South Wales. This specialist family wine company was established in 1999 by Dr Brian Freeman, previously professor of Wine Science at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga.

The 175-hectare estate comprises several elevated vineyard blocks located within a radius of 10 kilometres on a 560-meter ridge. This high and cool location and the well-structured free-draining decomposed granite soils have proven ideally suited to viticulture.

VITICULTURE & WINEMAKING

One variety that is synonymous with the cool Hilltops terroir is cabernet sauvignon – the classic Australian variety that thrives in a continental climate where warm days and cool nights are integral to cultivating balance and complexity.

The Altura Vineyard encompasses a block of mature 40-year-old cabernet vines. Selected bunches are handpicked with a yield of four tonnes per hectare.

The 2019 season was marked by a cool dry spring that reduced yields but resulted in the development of a balanced vine canopy. Thereafter, it was a very dry summer. This further restricted yields and resulted in significant flavour concentration enhanced even more by the cool slow-ripening autumn. Rain in early March was ideal for the final development of the fully ripe bunches. The grapes were harvested on 8 April with good acidity and balance.

TASTING NOTES

FREEMAN Cabernet Sauvignon 2019 is a deeply coloured elegant wine marked by ripe but fresh berry aromas with hints of dark chocolate. The gentle tannin frame is balanced by ample flavour producing an integrated, mellow and persistent palate. Pure appealing cabernet from a region increasingly recognised for quality cabernet.