

2020 Katherine's Paddock Chardonnay



Varietal blend 100% Chardonnay

Harvest dates Multiple picks across the blocks from 4 March to 25

March

Bottling date 27 January 2021

Oak treatment 100% barrel fermented and matured in a mix of

super-premium French oak (15% new, 14% second fill) of 500, 350, 300 and 228-litre capacity from Mercurey, François Freres, Taransaud and Cavin

cooperages for 9 months.

Alcohol content 13.0%

Preservatives <1.0 g/litre

Ageing potential 15+ years

Winemaking

Hand-picked at progressive ripening within the three blocks. Grapes were hand-sorted and whole-bunch pressed to tank and settled overnight. No pressings cuts were undertaken, and grapes were given a hefty squeeze. Minimal SO_2 or dry ice protection, only at end of pressing. Cloudy juice racked to barrel with light solids for 100% barrel fermentation utilising a combination of natural and cultured yeasts.

Aged on lees in barrel with selective stirring on leaner barrels. A small proportion of barrels underwent 100% malolactic fermentation.

Winemaker's notes

Our Katherine's Paddock Chardonnay (blended from our three clonal plantings) combines the richness, drive and classicism of our north-east facing P58 clone with the fruit-forward punchiness of the centrally positioned east-facing Mendoza block and the fine-boned flinty structure with chalky notes of the south-east facing Bernard 95 clone. This wine continues our stylistic reclamation of modern Chardonnay where body, flavour and palate weight can co-exist with structure, texture and restrained acidity.

Aroma: Beurre Bosc pear tarte tatin, makrut lime leaf, Meyer lemon, green papaya, laksa leaf, coriander seed, honeycomb, candle max & crème anglaise over a background of stylish oak.

Palate: Flint, saline, orange cream biscuit, powdered ginger, yellow fruits, white chocolate, and parmesan rind. Weight, depth, and richness lead to a full line-up of up-and-over, deep-dive palate power. A pithy texture builds on the finish, contributing to a long, expansive expression and lasting presence.

