



LEVANTINE HILL

2021 Katherine's Paddock Chardonnay



Vintage	2021
Varietal blend	100% Chardonnay. Clonal mix (62% Bernard 95; 33% P58; 5% Mendoza)
Harvest dates	22 February (P58 clone); 24 February (Mendoza); 3 March (Bernard 95)
Bottling date:	23 February 2022
Oak treatment	100% barrel fermented and matured in a mix of super-premium French oak (31% new, 23% second-fill) of 500, 350, 300 and 228-litre capacity from Mercurey, François Freres, Taransaud and Cavin cooperages for 10 months.
Alcohol content	12.5%
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. A portion were lightly crushed as intact whole bunches en route to press.

No pressings cuts made and grapes were given a considerable squeeze for phenolic inclusion. Minimal SO₂ or dry ice protection, only at end of pressing. Cloudy juice racked to barrel with light solids for 100% barrel fermentation utilising natural and cultured yeasts.

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

Winemaker's notes

Our Katherine's Paddock Chardonnay blend (from our three clonal plantings) combines the richness, drive and classicism of our north-east facing P58 clone with the fruit-forward fruitiness of east-facing Mendoza and the fine-boned flinty structure with chalky notes of the south-east facing block of Bernard 95 clone. From a high on perfect Yarra Valley vintage, this wine plants a flag for a stylistic reclamation of Chardonnay where body, flavour and palate weight can co-exist with structure, texture and restrained acidity.