

te Pā Marlborough Chardonnay 2017

Winemaker's technical and tasting notes



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Variety

100% Chardonnay

Vineyard

Single Vineyard - 100% St Leonard's Vineyard, Wairau Valley, Marlborough

Wine Analysis

Alc - 13.5%

pH - 3.26

T.A - 6.5g/L

R.S- 1g/L

Vineyard

Mature Mendoza Chardonnay vines cane pruned on VSP trellising. The soils of the St Leonard's Vineyard are well-drained stony, silt loams well suited to quality Chardonnay production.

Winemaking

The fruit for this Chardonnay was hand-picked then whole bunch pressed to barrel, 40% of which were new barrels selected from our most trusted French coopers. These barrels tend to have long, light toasting profiles, which integrate respectfully with the fruit.

The wine was left on gross lees for maturation, with partial malo-lactic fermentation (around 50%) kicking off in spring. This Chardonnay was then blended and filtered, prior to bottling on February 16th 2018.

Tasting note

This ripe and attractive Chardonnay has bright aromatics of stone fruit, florals and toasted nuts.

It has a ripe rich palate with some mealy complexity and textural characteristic. Notes of nectarine and almonds supported by gentle oak spice. Hints of citrus, balanced acidity, and a fine phenolic profile keeps this Chardonnay quite refreshing on the palate, with some flint and smoky oak notes adding further intrigue as the wine builds in the glass.

For a worthy food match, you could try deep fried battered courgette flowers with a little salt in the batter, or some decadent buttermilk fried chicken. For a gorgeous Mediterranean meal match, try a spiced chick pea and eggplant salad.

Vintage summary

The 2017 growing season was a challenging season with a cool spring and summer leading into a cool autumn with numerous rain events. However, good viticultural management and the adaption of appropriate practices due to the early identification of a cooler season, resulted in some very good fruit.

This Chardonnay block ripened early and in good condition and we were able to pick it well before the two larger late season rain events.

Awards & Accolades

- Silver Award, New World Wine Awards, 2018

Resources

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