

StH



2021 Cellar Reserve Chardonnay

Hubert de Castella's passion for the Yarra Valley saw him establish St Huberts in 1862. By the late 1800s it had grown to be the largest estate in the area. The wines enjoyed immediate and on-going success at wine shows both domestically and abroad. The onset of the Great Depression, the increasing popularity of fortified wine and the emerging profitability of dairy farming saw the vineyard revert to grazing in the 1920s. It wasn't until the 1960s that the Yarra Valley again rose to prominence as a wine region and St Huberts was once again one of the pioneers.

2021 is the first vintage of the St Hubert's Reserve Chardonnay. The philosophy behind this wine is very much less is more, with an emphasis on fruit purity and elegance. Fruit was sourced from a single block within the Briarston vineyard at the base of the Warramate Hills in the lower Yarra Valley. Grapes were whole berry pressed, and the juice reductively handled. High turbidity juice was fermented, and the wine matured in French oak, without lees stirring or malolactic fermentation. Power and restraint.

Winemaker Comments Greg Jarratt

Tasted 4th April 2022

Vineyard Region: Yarra Valley

Grape Variety: Chardonnay

Vintage Conditions:

Settled weather during flowering resulted in good to very good yields. A cool start to summer, with very few days of extreme heat led to slow and steady ripening. Overall a truly lovely vintage.

Technical Analysis

Harvest Date: Late Feb 2021

pH: 3.26

Acidity: 5.2g/L

Alcohol: 13.0%

Residual Sugar: 0.7g/L

Peak Drinking: Drink now to enjoy vibrant varietal flavours or allow depth and complexity to grow over the next five to ten years or so.

Maturation:

Fermented and matured for nine months: 100% French oak barriques, with around 38% new.

Colour:

Pale straw appearance with green hues.

Nose:

Light and lively. Citrus notes, lemon blossom, fresh cut pear, white flowers, nougat, and almond meal. Spice and fennel from the supporting oak.

Palate:

Tight and juicy with balance and texture. White peach, pear, citrus peel, and a saline like feel. A lovely long finish. The wine is a sleeper, you won't be disappointed.