

# 2020 CHARDONNAY

## VINTAGE 2020



### CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

A wet winter gave the vines a good start and was followed by a relatively warm spring, ideal for early growth. The summer was hot, and characterized by successive heat waves and very dry conditions. This resulted in smaller bunch sizes with intense concentrated flavours. The dry hot days accelerated ripening and Chardonnay harvest finished quite early. This was followed by a series of rains in late February which persisted into March, and prolonged hang time in the Cabernet and Malbec. The result was softer, riper tannins, concentrated flavours and optimally ripened reds.

### VINIFICATION

HARVEST DATE – Feb 5, 6, 7, and 10.

pH – 3.49.

ALCOHOL – 13.5%.

YIELD – 3333 bottles.

### 2020 CHARDONNAY

*A brilliant wine of grace, power, and structure.*

*Marvelously aromatic and deeply evocative, its complex fragrance spills out of the glass with a powerful essence of ripe pear, Meyer lemon, and dazzling citrus blossom tinged with hints of sandalwood incense.*

*The wine's superb, perfectly weighted texture thoroughly envelops the palate with concentrated pear and Meyer lemon, flawlessly entwined with exotic wood spice and river stone. So beautifully assembled, it's cerebral in its sensuality, intriguing in its complexity, and persists astoundingly long.*



Photo Jenny Calivas

# CLOUDBURST

- Margaret River -

## CLOUDBURST VINEYARD

### AREA

The vineyard comprises less than 2 hectares of a 100-hectare block, adjacent to the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park bordering the Indian Ocean in a United Nations classed Biodiversity Hotspot.

### THE LAND

Carved out of pristine wild bushland, the Cloudburst farmlands have never seen a chemical.

### THE SOILS

Combination of Wilyabrup profile of ironstone gravelly loams and Forest Grove profile of lateritic granite with lenses of beach sand. Limestone caves in close proximity with calcareous deposits.

### VINE ORIENTATION

North – South.

### DENSITY OF PLANTING

10,000 vines per hectare.

### AGE OF VINES

10-17 years.

All varieties are own-rooted – phylloxera not a threat in region.

### GRAPE VARIETIES

50% Chardonnay

40% Cabernet

10% Malbec

### VITICULTURE

Vines are entirely hand tended without use of machines. The vineyard has never been irrigated, it's entirely dry grown. Trellising utilizes vertical shoot positioning with a very low cordon. Biodynamic and Organic principles employed from inception. Vineyard is entirely hand weeded, and is neither cultivated nor tilled.

### HARVEST

Grapes are hand harvested into tiny crates to preserve freshness.

### VINIFICATION

REDS – Specific tiny cuvees are harvested, destemmed, hand sorted, and delivered without pumping to open fermenters. The grapes are not cold soaked. Spontaneous fermentation occurs from wild yeasts present in the vineyard. Ferments are plunged periodically throughout the process and once dry, are pressed immediately to barrel without extended maceration nor extra skin contact. Secondary malolactic fermentation occurs spontaneously in barrel. Minimal sulfur is added and the ferment rests until bottling.

WHITES – Hand-sorted, specific tiny cuvees are whole bunch pressed directly into barrel. Spontaneous primary and secondary fermentations occur in barrel. The barrels undergo marginal amount of batonage. Wines are minimally sulfured once they finish fermentation and rest gently until bottling.

### ELEVAGE

Cloudburst matures in French oak, largely new.

Chardonnay classically rests 10-11 months in barrel.

Cabernet and Malbec typically spend 18 -21 months in barrel.



Photo Sarah Hewer