



2004 Chardonnay

Variety: Chardonnay

Region: Hunter Valley

The Grapes

Estate grown on the Benwarin vineyard at Mistletoe Lane, Pokolbin. 2004 saw some very hot weather in January, followed by rain in February. Thankfully all the white varieties were harvested before the rain came. The chardonnay, assisted by crop thinning in December, handled the heat very well, producing a small crop with excellent flavour.

Winemaking

The fruit was crushed, lightly pressed, and chilled immediately after harvesting. It was cool fermented in stainless steel at 12 - 14°C until approximately 7°. Then a portion was transferred to new French oak barriques to complete primary and malolactic fermentation. The barrel fermented portion was matured in the barrels for 7 months with lees stirring, after which it was blended with the unoaked portion, clarified, filtered, and bottled. Closure: Stelvin screwcap.

Alcohol: 13.5%

Tasting Notes

Straw green colour. Ripe flavours of pineapple peach and melon with subtle spicy oak. A well balanced palate with ripe, sweet fruit flavours, complexity due to the partial barrel ferment, and a long finish.

Wine Show Results

Trophy – Best Chardonnay In Show – Hunter Valley Wine Show 2006
Gold Medal – Hunter Valley Wine Show 2006
Silver Medal – Hunter Valley Wine Show 2005
Silver Medal – NSW Small Winemakers Wine Show 2005
Silver Medal – NSW Small Winemakers Wine Show 2006
Silver Medal – Japan Wine Challenge 2006
Bronze Medal – Royal Sydney Wine Show 2006

Reviews

James Halliday – Australian Wine Companion 2007

Very well-made; gentle stone fruit with a drizzle of citrus; particularly good length and balance. Rating 90 Drink 2008

Murray Almond – winestar.com

The wine had partial barrel fermentation, the alcohol is 13.5%. Straw-gold in colour. peach and melon on the nose, with oak evident but not obvious. Medium weight palate showing some malo hints. Lovely natural fruit sweetness combine with quality french oak bringing some pineapple notes in with the other fruit characters. Nicely balanced with good breadth across the palate before a medium long finish. Delicious drinking now and probably suited to medium term aging. Quality: 93/100 (Excellent) Value: Exceptional



www.benwarin.com.au

Phone: 1 800 304 567

Email: sales@benwarin.com.au