



2017 Elephant Hill Reserve Chardonnay

Established in 2003, Elephant Hill is located within a stone's throw of the Pacific Ocean on the idyllic Te Awanga coast of Hawke's Bay on New Zealand's North Island.

The winemaking at Elephant Hill is driven by tradition while not losing sight of what innovation can bring to the blend. Our aim is to make wines that are balanced, elegant and a true expression of the vineyards they come from.

Vintage Overview

The 2016/17 growing season was marked by a sharp change of fortunes towards the end of summer by a sudden increase in rainfall throughout February to April and crop losses. Our hand-picking regime has to be incredibly thorough, ensuring only the best grapes are picked. Chardonnay was relatively unaffected by adverse weather conditions which arrived later in the season.

Winemaking

The coastal Te Awanga vineyard has proven a special site for Chardonnay. Majority of Clone 15 and 95 from Te Awanga vineyard and small amount of fruit from our Triangle vineyard. Whole bunch pressed and fermented with indigenous yeast. The wine was aged in 25% new French oak for 12 months with some lees stirring, minimal malolactic fermentation.

Tasting Note

The 2017 Reserve Chardonnay displays yellow stonefruit and citrus characters with a toasty oak palate. It is finely concentrated and has subtle mineral elements. The exceptional fruit purity, concentration and complexity are the hallmarks of our Elephant Hill Reserve Chardonnay.

Review

"Gorgeously complex and inviting, the wine shows ripe peach, fig, lemon peel and vanilla oak characters on the nose, leading to a concentrated palate that is wonderfully expansive and creamy. It is opulent and sophisticated with an impressively long refined finish." - Wine Orbit, 95 points

Technical Data

Vineyard

Te Awanga
Bridge Pa Triangle

Wine

Alcohol Content: 13.4%
Residual Sugar: 1.4 g/L
TA: 6.6 g/L



Elephant Hill
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