



Chardonnay

What the press say



Awarded Classic Status

- Michael Cooper's Buyers Guide, NZ

"Although wine maker Matthew Donaldson looks as though he has just got in from an all night rave they are presently producing some of New Zealand's most exhilarating, Burgundy inspired white wines..."

- Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, USA

2017



"This powerful, North Canterbury wine has a definite 'wow' factor. ... **Full of personality, ... weighty but elegant palate, ... lovely depth.**"

- Winestate Magazine, AUS

96/100 "Impressive, vibrant and flinty ... **Great wine that is packed with interest**"

- Nick Stock, www.jamessuckling.com, USA



96/100 "Superbly fruited and impressively lifted Seductively flinty complexity. ... The palate is equally engaging with excellent weight and concentration ... **finishing extremely long and expansive**"

- Sam Kim, [Wine Orbit](http://www.wineorbit.co.nz), NZ

95/100 "Bold, complex and flavoursome Chardonnay ... **A rich, weighty, textural wine that 'feels' as good as it tastes**"

- Bob Campbell MW, www.bobcampbell.nz, NZ

2016



19-/20 "... the wine possesses underlying power carrying the palate to a long finish. ... **a rich and luscious chardonnay** ..." - Raymond Chan, www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz, NZ



95/100 "satisfyingly complex wine with a great texture and very lengthy finish. A bright high energy wine ..."

- Bob Campbell MW, www.bobcampbell.nz, NZ

Excellent "...Right out of the blocks ...drinking superbly" - Mark Henderson, Otago Daily Times, NZ

94/100 " Quite **complex** ... tasty and very moreish. **Lengthy finish, balanced and well-made**" - Cameron Douglas MS, camerondouglasms.com, NZ

94/100 " **Excellent** ... a walk on the wild side ..." - Gary Walsh, *The Winefront*, AUS

93/100 "Handy concentration and integration of some very **complex** traits ... **long smooth finish**" - Nick Stock, www.jamessuckling.com, USA



Chardonnay

2015

95/100 “**Very complex, very concentrated and very good.** This has a big hit of grapefruit and lemon citrus. Quite pithy and flinty. The palate has layers and layers of fruit, delivering flavors that follow in the stone fruit and citrus threads seen on the nose. Spicy oak warms up through the finish”
- Nick Stock, www.jamessuckling.com, USA



“... The bouquet is fragrant and youthful; the palate weighty ... a very finely balanced, long, savoury finish. **Already delicious**”
- *Winestate Magazine*, AUS

18.5+/20 ... “... the palate is elegantly concentrated with an intense heart ... The mouthfeel has fine textures guiding the fruit, and the acidity is refined and refreshingly crisp ... to a long, lingering finish of stonefruits and nuts. This is **an intense and complex flavoured Chardonnay**”
- Raymond Chan, www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz, NZ

18.5/20 “It’s not often you find Chardonnay as good as this one,... a complex, dry and richly flavoursome white ... super delicious ...”
- Joelle Thomson, *Drinksbiz Magazine*, NZ



... “Strapping yet delicate, richly flavoured yet subtle, this **sophisticated North Canterbury wine is one of the country’s best Chardonnays.** Weighty, sweet-fruited and smooth, it has very generous, peachy, mealy, slightly buttery and spicy flavours, and a long, dry, savoury, seamless finish”
- Michael Copper, www.michaelcooper.co.nz, NZ

2013

19.5-/20 “... punchy and bold in expression. Full-bodied and with immense presence and power **This is a very powerful, flavour-packed, complex-layered Chardonnay** ...”
- Raymond Chan, www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz, NZ

92/100 “... a rich, intense Chardonnay that has plenty of power ... **A wine that shows class.**”
- Rebecca Gibb MW, www.rebeccagibb.com, NZ

95/100 “ **Bold, powerful wine with a lingering finish.**”
- Bob Campbell MW, www.bobcampbell.nz, NZ

“ This is an outstanding white wine, year on year; modelled on the great Burgundian whites ... An exceptional South Island Chardonnay that says ‘drink me now’ but also clearly has the staying power to age and evolve beautifully ...”
- Joelle Thomson, *Drinksbiz Magazine*, NZ



“...complexity builds as the wine rests on the palate; specific use of oak adds texture and length. **A great wine that teases the palate in all the right ways..**”
- Cameron Douglas MS, camerondouglasms.blogspot.co.nz, NZ



Chardonnay

2012

19/20 "...The wine has a linear core following a fine, textural thread, unveiling layers of savoury stonefruit and nutty detail with subtle oak and minerally nuances as it carries to a long, softly refreshing finish. **This is a complex-flavoured savoury, stonefruit and nutty Chardonnay with excellent vitality and fresh acidity . . .**" - *Raymond Chan, www.raymondchanwinereviews.co.nz, NZ*

This Chardonnay comes from North Canterbury's best known winery, Pegasus Bay, whose reputation has been forged on making great whites – particularly full bodied Rieslings but also exceptional good Chardonnays, which can age well. This is due to the cool climate delivering grapes with vibrant acidity, which preserves these lovely fleshy whites.

- *Joelle Thompson, Drinksbiz, NZ*

2011

One of the best NZ Chardonnays I've tasted this year. This youthful Chardonnay is taut and linear, focused and elegant. It gives attractive flinty sulphide-derived characters, as well as white stone fruit. New French oak adds a hazelnutty layer. High level of concentration in mouth suggests low yields, and combined with a long finish, **this Chardonnay exudes quality.**

- *Rebecca Gibb MW, www.rebeccagibb.com, NZ*

90/100 "...Reticent, pure aromas of lemon peel, lime, minerals and white pepper. **Densely packed and subtly complex**, with citrus and nectarine flavors complemented by spicy oak and a captivating leesy quality that contributes texture as well as another flavor element. **More Burgundy than New World in style** in spite of its mid-palate sweetness...."

- *Steve Tanzer, www.internationalwinecellar.com, USA*