



PATUTAHI, GISBORNE

## Single Vineyard McDiarmid Hill Chardonnay 2022

### Awards & Accolades

93 - Cameron Douglas, Cameron Douglas

93 - The Real Review, Bob Campbell

### Winemakers Comment

Capturing the qualities of a spectacular vineyard, McDiarmid Hill offers ripe tropical fruit aromas, fig and smoky grilled nut notes. The palate is lavishly textured, leading to a long finish extended by fine acidity. This bold, concentrated wine retains a balance that will appeal for immediate enjoyment but will also benefit from maturation, developing intriguing complexity over the next 5-8 years.

### Vintage

The 2022 McDiarmid Hill harvest was highly regarded and followed a warm, dry summer that persisted long after the last grapes were picked. Having benefited from cooler evening temperatures in the lead up to harvest which intensified flavour and acidity, harvest of these naturally low yielding vines commenced earlier than normal with beautifully clean and ripe fruit, paving the way for our Winemakers to capture a sensational vintage.

### Vineyard & Winemaking

**SUBREGIONS:** Patutahi

McDiarmid Hill is Villa Maria's jewel in the crown Gisborne vineyard, beautifully positioned on an elevated north facing hillside slope in Patutahi.

Taking full advantage of sunlight, drying wind conditions, slightly cooler temperatures and natural water drainage, the additional elevation provides a wonderful advantage for producing this consistently outstanding wine. Small parcels of mature dry farmed Mendoza vines provide for blending options, ideal for building complexity in the final wine.

### Winemaking Data

**VARIETIES:** 100% Chardonnay

**ALCOHOL:** 13.5%

**PH:** 3.51

**TOTAL ACIDITY:** 6.45g/l

**RESIDUAL SUGAR:** 0.8g/l

**FERMENTATION:** 68% Natural or 'wild' 32% inoculated CY3079 yeast

**BARREL TYPE:** 100% 228L M+ toast tight grain French barriques, 54% new, 46% 1 - 2yr old used

**MATURATION:** 14 months in oak, 2 months in tank

**MALOLACTIC:** partial

