

VIDAL

of HAWKES BAY

SOLEL

HAWKES BAY CHARDONNAY 2018

REVIEWS & SCORES

95/100 - Bob Campbell MW

94/100 - Sam Kim

5 stars - Michael Cooper

SITE, SEASON & HARVEST

Vineyards: Kokako, Ohiti Valley

Yields: 36 hl/ha

Clone: Mendoza predominant

The 2017/2018 growing season and the Kokako vineyard in the Ohiti Valley have produced an excellent, finely styled Chardonnay. A warm and relatively dry early summer lead to very hot conditions for the key ripening months of January and February. The Growing Degrees Days for the season were high at 16% above the long term average. Low crop yields, good flavour concentration and a careful selection allowed us to harvest fruit in excellent condition between the 6th and 16th of March. Planted in 2008 the Kokako vineyard is situated on an old river bed, primarily made up of Omahu Gravel series soil topped with Tywford silt on what is a relatively uniform block. Naturally low vigour soils and good airflow of this river bed site combined with shoot and bunch thinning and attention to detail in the vineyard across all aspects creates the opportunity to produce high-quality Chardonnay.

WINE MAKING

Pressing: Select harvesting

Fermentation: Natural

Fermentation Vessel: French barrique; 26% new and 74% seasoned 1 – 2yr

Maturation: 10 months on lees in barrel, 2 months in tank

Bottled: 24th March, 2019.

Barriques made: 26

Cellaring Potential: 3-5+ years from vintage

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Varieties: Chardonnay

Total acidity: 6.79

Alcohol: 13.5%

Residual sugar: Nil

pH: 3.37

TASTING NOTE

The 2017/2018 growing season has produced a wine showing concentration, fragrance and restraint. Citrus, white stone fruit, roasted nuts and oyster shell combine on a finely styled and textured palate. Showing vibrancy, balance and background complexity this Chardonnay will continue to age gracefully over time.

