



PRODUCTION:
SINGLE VINEYARD
WINE. 95 CLONE
CHARDONNAY
GROWN ON BEN
ZANDER'S FLAXMAN'S
VALLEY, EDEN VALLEY
VINEYARD. TOTAL
PRODUCTION 1350
BOTTLES

COLOUR:
PALE GREEN/GOLD
STRAW

NOSE:
PLENTY OF WHITE
PEACH LEANNESS
OVER RESTRAINED
AND SUBTLE HIGH
QUALITY OAK. A
FRESH LAYER OF
RESERVED LEMON
PEEL, FRESH CREAM,
SLIGHT TOFFEE HINTS
OVERLAY YEASTY
COMPLEXITY

PALATE:
TERRIFIC LINE AND
LENGTH UP FRONT.
INITIALLY MINERALLY
AND LITHE PALATE
WHICH WITH FRESH
WHITE PEACH
UNDERPINNED WITH
LEMON ZEST, CREAMY
TEXTURE & A
MOUTH-WATERING
CRISP FINISH.

GRAPES WERE PICKED IN THE COOL OF THE NIGHT BEFORE BASKET PRESSING TO FRENCH OAK HOGSHEADS FOR A WILD FERMENT. FERMENTATION AND SUBSEQUENT AGING WAS 100% IN BARREL ON LEES WITH REGULAR TOPPING AND STIRRING FOR 12 MONTHS. NO FININGS WERE USED SO THIS CHARDY IS SUITABLE FOR VEGOS AND VEGANS

THE VINEYARD: BEN ZANDER'S FLAXMAN'S VALLEY VINEYARD IN EDEN VALLEY HAS A LOVELY COOL SITING WITH WELL-DRAINING LIGHT LOAM SOILS AND AN EASTERLY ASPECT. THE VINEYARD IS PLANTED WITH BERNARD 95 CLONE CHARDONNAY.

PHILOSOPHY: CHARDONNAY IS A VERSATILE AND NOBLE GRAPE VARIETY, ABLE TO MAKE FABULOUS WINES WHEN GROWN IN THE RIGHT SITES AND WITH SYMPATHETIC WINEMAKING. THE "BERNARD" CHARDONNAY CLONE 95 (SELECTED FROM NEAR DIJON) OFFERS US A GREAT LEAP FORWARD IN ULTIMATE WINE QUALITY TO MANY OLDER PLANTED CHARDONNAY CLONES. THEY GIVE ELEGANCE IN WINE STRUCTURE AND POWERFUL FOCUSED FLAVOURS (RATHER THAN THE OFTEN-ENCOUNTERED TROPICAL/FAT/OILY TYPE FLAVOURS WITH INFERIOR PLANTING MATERIAL). VINEYARD SITE IS ALSO VITALLY IMPORTANT, THE BEST FRUIT COMING FROM COOL SITES WITH WELL-DRAINED SOILS, WATER AVAILABILITY JUST RIGHT – NOT TOO MUCH FOR EXCESS VIGOR AND NOT TOO LITTLE (MAKING THE SUBSEQUENT WINE CLUMSY AND COARSE).

BACK IN 2008, MY BROTHER PHIL, FRESH(ISH) FROM A VINTAGE IN BURGUNDY, SAID LET'S MAKE A CHARDONNAY. I SAID, "ARE YOU FUCKING JOKING??" THE ANSWER WAS THANKFULLY 'NO' AND RESULTED IN THE FIRST ITERATION OF THE BROTHER'S ILK CHARDONNAY. AFTER STEALING PHIL'S ORIGINAL CONCEPT, A SMIDGE OF HIS METHODOLOGY AND FORGING ONWARDS (SOLO) FROM 2009, I'VE HONED MY INTERPRETATION OF MY 'BROTHER'S ILK' AND MADE IT MY OWN. 2021 HAS SEEN A FURTHER EVOLUTION OF THE BROTHER'S ILK AS WE'RE NOW (METAPHORICALLY) IN BED WITH BEN ZANDER, AND LOVING HIS FLAXMAN'S VALLEY BERNARD 95 CHARDONNAY FRUIT. 1330 BOTTLES HAVE BEEN HANDMADE OF THE 2021 BROTHERS ILK, EACH CAREFULLY HAND PACKAGED BY TEAM 'DAVID FRANZ.' PLEASE ENJOY THIS BIT OF EDEN VALLEY, CRAFTED IN THE WESTERN BAROSSA!

BROTHER'S ILK
ZANDER'S FLAXMAN'S VALLEY VINEYARD,
EDEN VALLEY CHARDONNAY



A.D. 2021