

TYRRELL'S



WINEMAKER'S SELECTION VAT 47 CHARDONNAY 2021

Vineyard

Vat 47 Chardonnay comes entirely from our Short Flat vineyard, where the original Chardonnay vines were planted by Murray Tyrrell in 1968. The soil profile in this dry-grown vineyard is unlike that of any of our other vineyards, which gives Vat 47 its unique character. Each block on the Short Flat is made separately and blended before bottling.

Vintage Conditions

The autumn and winter months of 2020 saw the worst drought in a generation be broken with substantial rainfall, we led into an outstanding growing season for the 2021 vintage. A cool summer then gave us even, stress-free ripening with some heat around Australia Day that was perfectly timed at the final stages of ripening. With an early budburst and later than normal harvesting, the fruit had a longer than normal hang time, which meant that all of the fruit had wonderful flavours balanced by a high natural acidity.

Winemaker's Notes

Over the last ten days of January, all of the fruit was handpicked before immediately being basket-pressed. The juice was then cold settled for two days before being racked to another stainless-steel tank to begin fermentation. The fermenting juice was then transferred to French oak barriques to complete fermentation and maturation before bottling in early November.

Tasting Notes

The 2021 vintage marks the 50th release of Vat 47, Australia's first Chardonnay. Vibrant green colour, the nose is delicate and perfectly balanced with citrus and white stone fruit with a hint of oak only that sits in the background. The palate is medium bodied and shows sweet Chardonnay fruit that is balanced by textural elements derived from the solids ferment and extended time on yeast lees. The purity, intensity, and length of fruit is what sets this vintage apart from others in recent times.

Date Picked 20 - 28 January 2021 | Date Bottled 3 November 2021

Alc 13.5% | pH 3.35 | TA 7.15 g/L

THE STORY OF THE WINEMAKER'S SELECTION RANGE

Murray Tyrrell created the Winemaker's Selection range back in 1965, when, with the assistance of Len Evans, he set out to determine the best wines from each vintage. He named these wines after the casks in which they were matured; for instance, the first Chardonnay we made went into cask number 47, so it became Vat 47 Chardonnay, or Pinot Chardonnay as it was then called. In 1974, having discovered that we had up to six casks from the same vineyard block that all tasted much the same, we brought the selection down to about 12 wines in total - a mixture of whites and reds. The early 2000s saw a further consolidation with the inauguration of the Sacred Sites range and the expansion of our Single Vineyard program. Today, the Winemaker's Selections are estate-grown on the various blocks that form the wines that we believe best represent our land and house style. These wines are only bottled in years when we believe that the quality is high enough to meet our exacting standards.