



2014 STREICKER CHARDONNAY

Winemaking: The fruit for the Ironstone Chardonnay is hand-picked from the Ironstone Vineyard in the heart of Wilyabrup. The fruit is chilled and whole-cluster pressed to retain freshness and cultivate texture and structure. The juice is settled cold and racked after 2 days, harvesting only the lightest and most delicate grape solids to further aid in textural and aromatic development. The juice is barrel fermented in 40% new, 30% 2nd fill and 30% 3rd fill French oak barriques. 66% of the barrels are sulphured pre-malolactic fermentation, in order to further preserve fresh fruit aromatics and pure acidity. The other 33% are allowed to undergo malolactic fermentation, developing both richer, bolder aromatics and textural elements. It is then aged in oak for 9 months and battonaged every two weeks to develop texture and additional palate complexity, after which the wine is removed from barrel, clarified and bottled.

Vintage: The Margaret River Wine Region has been blessed with eight great growing seasons in a row. Vintage 2014 started off with some late, heavy rainfall in September and two minor hail events in October. However from here on, there weren't any significant weather events until a heat spike the week prior to Christmas. The entire flowering period occurred in warm, mild conditions resulting in good fruit-set across all varieties. Vintage conditions were ideal for ripening all varieties with little or no disease present and no rainfall pressures.

Aroma: Ripe nectarines and cut yellow peach with hints of honeycomb, bees wax and brioche.

Palate: Enters with generous fruit and a vibrant acidity carrying through to the mid-palate. Bold tones of glazed stone-fruit, French oak and vanilla-pod abound, followed by a persistent finish completed with hints of grain, citrus blossom and nutmeg.

Cellaring: This is a fresh drink now style, but can be aged for up to 10 years for added complexity.

Alcohol: 13.5%

Accolades: 95 points - James Halliday
94 points - Campbell Mattinson, The Wine Front
93 points - Ray Jordan
GOLD - Sydney International Wine Competition

