

innocent bystander

Innocent Bystander, Yarra Valley Chardonnay 2019

Yarra Valley, Victoria, Australia



PRODUCER

Innocent Bystander's reputation has been built upon the style of their regional and varietal wines, which reflect the soil, climate and topography of the cool Yarra Valley. Owned by one of Australia's leading family-owned wine companies, Brown Brothers, the Yarra Valley fruit is harvested and immediately transported to their winery in Milawa, Northern Victoria. Here the winemaking team process the grapes in their 'Kindergarten Winery', specially designed for small batches and different winemaking techniques for minimal intervention.

VINEYARDS

Chardonnay parcels were sourced from sites in both the Upper Yarra and the Valley floor, for a combination of citrus freshness and riper fruit characters. This selective approach results in highly expressive wines, true to the regional characteristics across the Yarra Valley.

VINTAGE

2019 was an outstanding vintage for Chardonnay in the Yarra Valley. The grapes benefited from the longer hang time provided by a cool January and February, allowing flavours to fully develop.

VINIFICATION

Fruit was hand picked and whole bunch pressed, with the free-run juice kept separate from the pressings. The free-run juice was fermented on solids with no racking or clarification taking place prior to fermentation, which used indigenous yeasts in new and seasoned French barriques and puncheons. Lees stirring occurred monthly until winter and no malolactic fermentation took place. The wine was lightly fined prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

This Chardonnay has fresh pear and lemon notes that combine with delicate white flowers. Lovely soft aromas of poached apple and marzipan evolve in the glass. Crisp, fresh and dry on the palate, the wine is tightly sprung then unwinds to reveal a citrus pith texture, wrapped around a fresh stone-fruit core.

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| Grape Varieties | 100% Chardonnay |
| Winemaker | Geoff Alexander |
| Closure | Screwcap |
| ABV | 13% |
| Residual Sugar | 2g/L |
| Acidity | 6g/L |
| Wine pH | 3.25 |
| Bottle Sizes | 75cl |