



# 2019 Elephant Hill Chardonnay

Established in 2003, Elephant Hill is located within a stone's throw of the Pacific Ocean on the idyllic Te Awanga coast of Hawke's Bay on New Zealand's North Island.

The winemaking at Elephant Hill is driven by tradition while not losing sight of what innovation can bring to the blend. Our aim is to make wines that are balanced, elegant and a true expression of the vineyards they come from.

## Vintage Overview

The 2018/2019 growing season and our "Sea" and "Earth" Vineyards at Te Awanga and the Bridge Pa Triangle have produced a balanced and finely styled Chardonnay. Overall, the season was very warm with a total heat summation (1,425 Growing Degree Days) well above the Long-Term Average. The key ripening months of January and February were warm and dry. This combined with low crop yields, good flavour and careful selection allowed us to harvest fruit in excellent condition in the 2nd week of March.

### Winemaking

Hand harvested fruit was gently whole bunch pressed and the resulting juice was briefly settled before being transferred to French oak barrels (largely seasoned) and tank for natural and inoculated fermentation. Following this, some batches went through malolactic fermentation to balance out the natural acidity. Maturation on fine lees for 13 months with regular stirring has added texture, complexity and interest to the core of fruit purity this wine shows.

### Tasting Note

A classic Hawke's Bay Chardonnay. Beautifully fragrant citrus, white-fleshed stone fruit and subtle roasted nuts combine on a finely styled and softly textured, balanced palate. Predominantly grown at our coastal "Sea" vineyard this wine reflects our place. It has a freshness and restraint typical of many of our wines grown at this site. Serve lightly chilled and enjoy with seafood, poultry and fresh seasonal dishes.

#### Review

Yet to be reviewed.

### Technical Data

### Vineyard

85% Te Awanga 15% Bridge Pa Triangle

#### Wine

Alcohol content: 13.0% Residual Sugar: <1 g/L pH: 3.37 TA: 5.73 g/L







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