

PHILIP SHAW N°

NO. 11 CHARDONNAY 2011

Chardonnay is the most established variety in the Orange region and also in the Koomooloo vineyard. Since the mid 90's, Koomooloo has been producing Chardonnay with a high level of quality. Chardonnay is a noted variety, achieving relatively quick maturity from the vines.

Summer was a cool vintage, resulting in a very delayed season. With this late summer and autumn, a worrying irregular rainfall occurred.

The Vineyard staff from early January until mid February picked the Chardonnay constantly, walking through the vineyard picking any imperfect fruit, so to stop the spread of disease. Resulting in over 35% reduction of crop level. We were rewarded, however, with excellent clean fruit, by the time it was placed in the press.

The grapes from Blocks 6 and 11 were carefully handpicked bunches, requiring examination, they were hand picked over a period of 5 days, starting at first light and finishing by lunch. The fruit was quickly delivered to the winery where further sorting was required and the hand picked selection allowed a clean sample of fruit, which was pressed as whole bunches.

Very slow, careful pressing was carried out to minimise the extraction of any tannins - The juice was allowed to settle over night then racked off any heavy lees to barrel, where it was left to ferment on its own accord. The barrels were 25% new oak, with the balance being one to two years old French oak. The different components allowed the wine to remain in barrels for about 11 months before being carefully graded and blended.

Vineyard and Winery notes

Variety	100% Chardonnay
Vineyard	Koomooloo, Orange NSW
Altitude	≈ 900 metres
Vines Planted	1989 ad 1995
Clones	V 1, 95, 96, 210
pH	3.3
TA	6.5
Alc	12.0%
Oak Treatment	25% Balanced French oak, 50% older barrels, 25% stainless steel.
Cellaring Potential	15 years under ideal conditions.

Tasting notes

Colour:	Bright straw with green undertones
Aroma	Complex, vibrant and intense varietal fruits.
Flavour	Medium weight, honey full flavours, complex and complete. "Very intense, still needs a little more time." Philip Shaw