

Blackenbrook Chardonnay 2019

After twelve months barrel ageing, this is a rich Chardonnay with layers of pineapple, bran biscuit and sweet oak. It impresses with its untamed power and length.

It's our Moutere clay soils, the dazzling Nelson sun and the finger prints of our team that make our wines unique. We hope you'll enjoy.



Season Overview: The weather gods were on our side, giving us an exceptional growing season. With ample spring rain the vineyard was off to a strong start and quickly grew a vibrant green canopy, the powerhouse producing the energy for the new crop.

Grapevines are wind-pollinators and the dry and sunny December was perfect for a good, even fruit set.

From January right into harvest a heat wave and drought gripped Nelson Tasman. Luckily our un-irrigated vines have deep roots and managed to find sufficient water deep down in the gravelly clay soils. They thrived in the challenging conditions and gave us a beautiful crop with outstanding colour and flavours. Harvest kicked off on 8 March, the earliest we've seen it at Blackenbrook's ever.

Vegan wine, certified by the New Zealand Vegetarian Society



From **Sustainable Production**, accredited by Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand

Vineyard: all fruit from our 18 year old home block
Clones: Mendoza, Gm 2/23, UCD 15, CI 95
Moutere clay with a layer of sandy loam
Extensive manual shoot thinning and leaf plucking to keep canopy healthy and dry
Hand-picked in pristine condition on 21 March 2019, 22.6 Brix

Winery: Extremely gentle winemaking, whole bunch pressed, gravity-fed from press area to main winery, cool fermentation, extended lees contact, minimal pumping

12 months in oak barrels (225L – 500L)
10% French oak, 90% American oak
Malolactic fermentation
13.5% alcohol
Bottled on 14 July 2020, screw capsules
Light-weight bottles to reduce carbon footprint



4 Stars Michael Cooper

Full-bodied, fresh and lively, the attractive 2019 Chardonnay has strong peach and grapefruit flavours, with biscuity oak adding complexity, and lots of drink-young appeal.