

# FOUNDER'S VIEW

*Variety:* Chardonnay

*Vintage:* 2023

*Region:* Eden Valley, South Australia

*Alcohol:* 14.5%

The Founder's View range brings in the best of our grower fruit into these blends allowing flexibility in finding that ultimate blend. They are trusted partnerships with growers who we have worked with for years. We take grapes sourced from a range of vineyards, to enable us to build layers into the wine aiming for complex and complete wines. Chief winemaker Tim Heath, crafts harmonious balance, drawing on each of the sites unique characters.

## *Vineyard*

The Eden Valley sits 34 degrees south of the equator, at a similar latitude to the neighbouring Barossa Valley. However, the higher elevation of Eden Valley provides cooler conditions, 5-7°C lower than the Barossa Valley floor. The undulating, hilly terrain provides a diverse range of sub-climates, meaning aspect and slope are important factors in vineyard site selection. The grapes for this wine were sourced from several vineyard sites within the Eden Valley.

## *Winemaking*

Parcels of Chardonnay from the cooler Eden Valley were harvested in the cool of night then pressed off skins and cold settled for 12 hours. The clear juice was racked to French oak barrels and inoculated with selected yeast strains for barrel fermentation. Post fermentation the wine was stirred on its yeast lees to create a wine with texture and weight. Individual barrels from several vineyards were selected for the final blend to achieve a wine with balance and complexity

## *Colour*

Pale yellow

## *Nose*

White peach, and nectarine aromatics, with struck match and flinty notes.

## *Palate*

White stone fruit and with grilled cashew flavours are complimented with flinty complexity. Mouth filling and textural with a bright, fine acid line.

## *Cellaring*

Drinks well now, or will reward cellaring for the mid-term (36 - 48 months).

## *Vintage 2023*

Barossa's 2023 vintage was significantly delayed, starting 3-4 weeks later than the 'new normal' of recent decades, with harvest extending into May for some sites. The region experienced one of its wettest springs on record, with 131% above-average rainfall and 53 rain days. Summer was mild, with no heatwaves and below-average rainfall, delaying veraison until February. Harvest began in mid-March for early reds, with sporadic rainfall events in March and April. While yields varied across the region, the final tally was slightly above-average. The season's challenges ultimately resulted in reds with intense, rich flavors.

