

2019 XANADU DJL CHARDONNAY



VARIETY:

100% Chardonnay

Margaret River, W.A.

TECHNICAL:

pH: 3.05 Alc.: 13.0 % v/v TA: 8.3 g/L Free SO₂: 38 ppm

Residual Sugar: 1.8 g/L VA: 0.5 g/L Total SO₂: 143 ppm

TASTING NOTES

COLOUR:	Pale straw.
BOUQUET:	The bouquet of this fresh, fruit driven Chardonnay displays nashi pears and grapefruit characters with underlying hints of oyster shell and oatmeal.
PALATE:	The palate is medium bodied and tightly coiled displaying white fleshed stone fruits and zesty citrus flavours. Minerally/quartz-like characters are complimented by a lovely creamy texture derived from lees stirring whilst in barrel. The vibrant fruit and crisp acidity combine to focus the wine perfectly to a lingering fruit finish.

CELLARING POTENTIAL:

A contemporary Chardonnay, displaying classic Margaret River hallmarks. The 2019 DJL is a wine which, while drinking well in its youth, will certainly reward with careful cellaring.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The growing season began with a late budburst after a relatively cold Winter with reasonable rainfall. The cool Spring which followed resulted in some uneven flowering and fruit set, and generally lower than average yields. We experienced a significant and unusual rain event mid-January which was timely due to the later season. This was followed by some fine, mild weather to get vintage underway.

There was a complete lack of Marri blossom leading up to and during harvest which meant that bird pressure was extreme, with netting absolutely vital. The cooler ripening conditions did result in amazing flavour intensity and acid retention in the whites. There was a minor rain event coupled with high humidity mid-March which presented some challenges requiring careful fruit selection, although this gave way to some beautiful weather right through till late April.

All of the fruit for the 2019 DJL Chardonnay was Estate grown on our Stevens Road and Boodjidup Vineyards in the Wallcliffe subregion of Margaret River.

WINEMAKING

Made entirely from Gingin clone, the fruit was whole bunch pressed and barrel fermented in select French oak barriques (17% new oak). Wild fermentation was encouraged on all of the components in order to introduce more complexity and personality into the wine. All of the individual batches which make up the blend were lees stirred throughout a nine-month oak maturation period, without any malolactic fermentation. The final blend was put together in November 2019.