

Chardonnay

Only a small group this time, but Tarrawarra certainly brought out the heavy artillery. Even in this nine wine line-up, the quality of modern Australian chardonnay, from coast to coast, is evident. We've said it before, but white burgundy looks very expensive compared to Australia's best.



2015 Tarrawarra MDB Yarra Valley Chardonnay The combination of nougat, white peach and cashew creates a sublime bouquet. The palate is long, silky and seamless, with perfectly balanced firmness. For all that, this wine is comparatively understated, needing time, but it certainly makes a statement. (\$110.00) ★★★★★

<http://www.tarrawarra.com.au/product/2015-MDB-Chardonnay>

2015 Tarrawarra Reserve Yarra Valley Chardonnay Here we have very impressive intensity and a complex meld of white peach with lees and oak aromas. The palate offers weight, length, a creamy texture and a gentle grip. (\$50.00) ★★★★★

<http://www.tarrawarra.com.au/product/2015-Reserve-Chardonnay>



2016 Ross Hill Pinnacle Series Griffin Road Chardonnay This Orange (N.S.W.) chardonnay certainly delivers in terms of value for money. The pure white peach aromas are enhanced by subtle nougat overtones and the palate is long and creamy, with just-right firmness and cleansing regional acidity. (\$35.00) ★★★★★
<http://rosshillwines.businesscatalyst.com/pinnacle-series>

2016 Sittella Margaret River Reserve Chardonnay A vibrant chardonnay offering white peach varietal character supported by oatmeal and nougat complexity. This is a classy, tightly structured, restrained chardonnay. A bargain. (\$27.20) ★★★★★
<https://www.sittella.com.au/purchase-online>

2015 Tarrawarra Southblock Yarra Valley Chardonnay Quite perfumed (honeydew melon) with a hint of funkiness. A fresh, easy to drink style with lively acidity. (\$35.00) ★★★★★

2015 Tarrawarra Estate Yarra Valley Chardonnay White peach, with a suggestion of nutty lees complexity. The palate offers some textural support to the well-expressed varietal flavour. (\$35.00) ★★★★★

2016 Angullong Orange Chardonnay An appealing, restrained white peach style which has a talc-like mouthfeel and good acid drive in keeping with its origin. Another bargain. (\$20.00) ★★★★★

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2016 Wirra Wirra 12th Man Adelaide Hills Chardonnay The fresh white peach and grapefruit aromas are attractive, as is the subdued cashew complexity. There's good initial flavour, but it tapers off on the finish. (\$35.00) ★★★☆

2016 Risky Business White Knuckle Margaret River Chardonnay Fresh and varietal but somewhat short and simple. (\$25.00) ★★★

The 4-5 star wines range from \$20.00 to \$110.00. That's indicative of a very strong varietal category.

2017 Winewise Small Vigneron Awards

Entries are currently flowing in for the 2017 Winewise Small Vigneron Awards. It's a significant event which demands a lot of our time, hence the comparative infrequency of our bulletins at the moment. We'll shortly have about 1,500 bottles of wine in our storage facility, and they all have to be sorted into classes – 51 of them.

Judging takes place from 16-19 August.

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