August 9, 2019

CHARDONNAY

The upward trajectory of Australian chardonnay continues. The top two wines could stand up to challenges from any of the world's chardonnays and acquit themselves well. The average standard of this line-up is high indeed, and we encourage you to delve into this exciting sector of Australian wine.

2018 Oakridge Vineyard Series Henk Yarra Valley Chardonnay This wine is downright exciting. It's restrained and subtle on the nose but offers white nectarine and grapefruit aromas enhanced by nougat overtones. The long palate features a creamy texture, beautifully balanced phenolic grip and linear acidity. What a bargain. ($42.00) ★★★★★

2018 Tolpuddle Tasmania Chardonnay Tasmania is a growing force with chardonnay, and here's the leader. This stunning wine is subtly complex, showing cool-area grapefruit/white nectarine varietal character. The palate is built on a steely acid spine, and is tight and creamy, with talc-like phenolics. ($70.00) ★★★★★
http://www.randalls.net.au/store/tolpuddle-vineyard-chardonnay-2018-p-26389.html

2018 Oakridge Vineyard Series Barkala Ridge Yarra Valley Chardonnay Nougat lees/oak inputs add an extra dimension to the vibrant white peach nose. The palate is long, acid-fresh and beautifully textured. ($42.00) ★★★★☆
https://www.oakridgewines.com.au/store/

2018 Oakridge Vineyard Series Hazeldene Yarra Valley Chardonnay This wine is as much about structure as it is about intense varietal flavour. The palate delivers a fine phenolic grip to support the fruit, and cleansing acid lifts the finish. ($42.00) ★★★★☆

2018 Oakridge Vineyard Series Willowlake Yarra Valley Chardonnay The nose is powerful, fresh and nutty, leading to a satisfying, long, finely textured palate. Aroma and flavour-wise, it's in the white peach zone. ($42.00) ★★★★☆

2018 Philip Shaw No.11 Orange Chardonnay The delicate stone fruit aromas carry some oak and lees nuttiness. A creamy texture adds interest to a persistent, balanced palate. ($32.00) ★★★★

2018 Little Yering Yarra Valley Chardonnay A fresh, simple white peach-grapefruit style that is at its best now. ($20.00) ★★★

2018 Sandalford Estate Reserve Wilyabrup Chardonnay A light but fresh melon/fig style of chardonnay. Simple drinking. ($25.00) ★★★

2017 Moss Brothers Margaret River Chardonnay This wine has a slight green melon rind overtone, and is fresh, but on the lean side. ($15.00) ★★★

There's a lot to like here. We suggest you try a few of them.

RATING SCALE

★★★★★	Outstanding	97-100 pts	Gold medal
★★★★☆	Highly Recommended	93-96	Gold/silver
★★★★	Recommended	90-92	Silver
★★★☆	Recommended	87-89	Bronze
★★★	Agreeable	85-87	Bronze
★★☆	Agreeable	82-84	
★★	Acceptable	80-82	
★☆	Acceptable	77-79	
★	Barely Acceptable	74-76	
☆	Unacceptable	71-73	
No stars	Undrinkable	<71	

If you're not a Winewise subscriber, please join us (Only $35 per year) http://winewise.net.au/