

SVA Chardonnay

As usual, the chardonnay class delivered the goods. Denman-based Two Rivers continued an impressive run of Winewise trophies against very strong opposition, and the two entries from Whimwood Estate again claimed gold medals and went within a whisker of topping the class.



2017 Two Rivers Yarra Road Hunter Valley Chardonnay

A complex chardonnay in which the intense white peach fruit is supported by funky, toasty notes. The palate is long, balanced and perfectly structured. (\$50.00) ★★★★★☆
<https://www.tworivers.com.au/>

2018 Whimwood Estate Nannup Blackwood Valley Chardonnay

Another chardonnay that is anything but straightforward. Strong varietal characteristics are backed up by beautifully handled oak with inputs of toasted nuts and struck match. The intensity and freshness are impressive. (\$30.00) ★★★★★☆
<https://www.whimwoodestatewines.com.au/buy-wine-859039.html>

2019 Robert Stein Mudgee Reserve Chardonnay The aromas lean to melon and fig with attractive toasted cashew complexity. Intense flavour runs the full length of a vibrant palate with a fine, talc-like grip. (Not yet released) ★★★★★☆

2019 Whimwood Estate Nannup Blackwood Valley Chardonnay

Whimwood Estate is clearly on top of the chardonnay game. Here's another vintage with the trademark funky complexity and deft oak handling. This is a fresh, well crafted wine that can only improve in bottle. (Not yet released) ★★★★★☆

2019 House Of Cards The Royals Queen Of Hearts Margaret River Chardonnay

This chardonnay has all the classic characteristics – powerful varietal fruit, beautifully integrated oak and struck match overtones. The palate is intense, long and satisfying. (\$45.00) ★★★★★☆
<https://houseofcardswine.com.au/product/queen-of-hearts/>

2019 Meerea Park XYZ Hunter Valley Chardonnay This is a vibrant, ready to drink chardonnay with peachy aromas and flavours supported by quality oak. All the components come together on a delicious palate.

(\$25.00) ★★★★★☆

<https://www.meereapark.com.au/wine/xyz-chardonnay/9894>

2018 Paringa Estate The Paringa Mornington Peninsula

Chardonnay This is an attractive nutty style of chardonnay with a touch of funkiness and good fruit weight. The finish is just a touch firm.

(\$80.00) ★★★★★

2019 After Hours Margaret River Chardonnay A fresh, bright wine showing melon and stone fruit characteristics. It's a little too oak-driven.

(\$34.00) ★★★★★

2019 Crittenden Estate Cri de Coeur Mornington Peninsula

Chardonnay A fresh, but subdued chardonnay that is yet to blossom.

All the components are there for 2-3 years' cellaring. (\$80.00) ★★★★★

2019 Crittenden Estate The Zumma Mornington Peninsula

Chardonnay The white peach aroma is appealing, and is enhanced by a touch of barrel ferment nuttiness. It too is a little backward and needs

time to evolve. (\$57.00) ★★★★★

2019 Ridgeview Impressions Hunter Valley Chardonnay The fresh nose offers spicy melon aromatics and well integrated oak. This is a wine of good balance and fruit weight. It's beginning to drink well. (\$35.00)

★★★★★

2019 Brash Road Vineyard Single Vineyard Margaret River

Chardonnay Although there's plenty of fresh varietal flavour, the oak is prominent at the moment. (\$34.95) ★★★★★

2018 Crittenden Estate The Zumma Mornington Peninsula

Chardonnay A tightly structured wine in which the oak is still quite prominent. However the fruit is likely to evolve well. (\$57.00) ★★★★★

2019 Lerida Estate Cullerin Chardonnay There's a touch of gunflint on the nose and the white peach fruit is quite restrained. An attractive

wine that just needs a little more depth. (\$38.00) ★★★★★

2018 Robert Stein Mudgee Reserve Chardonnay Certainly not a simple wine. Funky aromas combine with those of stone fruit, and the oak is quite prominent. The fruit weight is more than adequate. (\$50.00)

★★★★★

2016 Colmar Estate Block 1 Orange Region Chardonnay This is a very fresh wine showing just a little development. The strongly varietal fruit is supported by attractive nuttiness and quality oak. (\$45.00)

★★★★★

2018 Terra Felix Mornington Peninsula Chardonnay There's plenty of white peach fruit to enjoy, and the mealy/nutty overtone is attractive.

There's some firmness on the finish. Ready now. (\$25.00) ★★★★★

2019 Eden Hall Chardonnay The melon/apple aromas are a little forward, but the length of palate and texture have considerable appeal. Short-term. (\$30.00) ★★★★★

2016 Cooks Lot Iconique Barrique Chardonnay (\$50.00) ★★★★★

2019 Tintilla Estate Pebbles Brief Chardonnay (\$30.00) ★★★★★

2019 Freycinet Chardonnay (\$45.00) ★★★★★

2019 Bream Creek Vineyard Chardonnay (\$36.00) ★★★

2019 Risky Business White Knuckle Chardonnay (\$25.00) ★★★

2018 Freycinet Chardonnay (\$45.00) ★★★

2019 Mount Avoca Estate Organic Chardonnay (\$37.95) ★★★

2019 Spook Hill Within The Pale Chardonnay (\$24.00) ★★★

2018 Wignalls Single Vineyard Chardonnay (\$35.00) ★★☆☆

2017 Ridgeview Impressions Chardonnay (\$35.00) ★★☆☆

2019 Windance Estate Glen Valley Chardonnay (\$38.00) ★★☆☆

2018 Two Rivers Yarra Road Hunter Valley Chardonnay (\$50.00) ★★☆☆

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2017 Cooks Lot Allotment 168 Barrel Aged Chardonnay (\$23.00) ★★☆☆

2019 Paringa Estate The Paringa Mornington Peninsula Chardonnay (\$80.00) ★★☆☆

2019 Clyde Park Single Block B3 Chardonnay (\$75.00) ★★

2020 Smallwater Estate Unwooded Chardonnay (\$22.00) ★★

2019 Saddler's Creek Wines Marrowbone Chardonnay (\$26.00) ★★

2019 Peter Teakle Wines Chardonnay (\$25.00) ★★

2019 Bellarine Estate James' Paddock Chardonnay (\$35.00) ★★

2017 Cooks Lot Iconique Barrique Chardonnay (\$50.00) ★★

2017 Lane's End Macedon Ranges Chardonnay (\$35.00) ★★

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- 2019 Terindah Estate Chardonnay (\$37.00) ★★
- 2018 Twisted River Chardonnay (\$25.00) ★★
- 2019 Clyde Park Estate Chardonnay (\$45.00) ★★
- 2016 Lane's End Macedon Ranges Chardonnay (\$35.00) ★☆
- 2019 Tarrahill Yarra Valley Chardonnay (\$30.00) ★

Judges: Bryan Currie, Lex Howard, Alex McKay, David Yeates

Here's the chardonnay honour roll of the trophy winners going all the way back to the year the class was first judged in 1990.

- 2016 Whimwood Estate Nannup Chardonnay
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- 2014 RidgeView Impressions Hunter Valley Chardonnay
- 2015 Seville Estate Reserve Yarra Valley Chardonnay
- 2014 Sitella Reserve Wilyabrup Chardonnay
- 2013 Eden Road Maragle Tumbarumba Chardonnay
- 2012 Crooked Brook Chardonnay
- 2011 Paringa Estate Mornington Peninsula Chardonnay
- 2009 Hutton Triptych Margaret River Chardonnay
- 2009 Oakridge Lieu-dit Mackay Vineyard Chardonnay
- 2008 Seville Estate Yarra Valley Chardonnay
- 2006 Mistletoe Reserve Hunter Valley Chardonnay
- 2005 Montgomery's Hill Chardonnay
- 2005 Killerby Chardonnay
- 2001 Canobolas-Smith Chardonnay
- 2002 Hillcrest Yarra Valley Chardonnay
- 2001 West Brook Blue Ridge Marlborough Chardonnay
- 2000 Lark Hill Chardonnay
- 1999 Gapsted Ballerina Canopy Chardonnay
- 1998 Eldridge Estate Chardonnay
- 1997 Canobolas Smith Chardonnay
- 1996 Brindabella Hills Reserve Chardonnay
- 1995 Geoff Weaver Adelaide Hills Chardonnay
- 1995 Yarra Valley Hills Kiah Yallambee Chardonnay
- 1993 Freycinet Tasmania Chardonnay
- 1993 Yarra Valley Hills Kiah Yallambee Chardonnay
- 1991 Goona Warra Chardonnay
- 1990 Elgee Park Chardonnay
- 1990 Chatsfield Chardonnay
- 1989 Wignalls Chardonnay

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