

Chardonnay

Here are some brief notes on some of the finest Australian chardonnays, most of which are currently available. The dominance of Adelaide Hills and Margaret River is clearly apparent. We've come a long way with chardonnay in Australia, as evidenced by the intensity, freshness and balance of so many of these wines.

2020 Penfolds Reserve Bin 20A Adelaide Hills Chardonnay Power, funk, white peach. Spot-on. Wow palate and structure. (\$120.00)

★★★★★

<https://langtons.com.au/product/91459/1/2020?basket=100064>

2020 Shaw + Smith M3 Adelaide Hills Chardonnay Intense white peach. Good touch of funk. Creamy tight and long. (\$52.95) ★★★★★

<http://canterburywines.net/Categories/Chardonnay.htm>

2019 Xanadu Reserve Margaret River Chardonnay Vibrant white peach/grapefruit. Subtle lees and oak. Tight, creamy, good acid line.

(\$102.00) ★★★★★

<https://cloudwine.com.au/collections/white-wine/products/xanadu-reserve-chardonnay-2018>

2020 Xanadu Stevens Road Margaret River Chardonnay Fresh ripe stonefruit. Nice oak. Linear, good acid and texture. (\$80.00) ★★★★★

<https://langtons.com.au/product/59649/1/2020?basket=110839>

2020 Shaw + Smith Lenswood Vineyard Adelaide Hills Chardonnay Powerful white peach plus oak and lees. Power and structure. (\$85.00) ★★★★★☆

<https://www.differentdrop.com/collections/wines/products/2020-shaw-smith-lenswood-vineyard-chardonnay?variant=40115291127851>

2020 Deep Woods Estate Reserve Chardonnay Intense peach. Excellent nutty lees and fairly prominent oak. Big rich palate. (\$59.00)

★★★★☆

<https://www.princewinestore.com.au/deep-woods-reserve-chardonnay-2020.html>

2019 Heggies Vineyard Estate Chardonnay Fresh, peachy, faintly nutty. Creamy. Nice acid line. (\$33.28) ★★★★★☆

<https://worldwine.com.au/products/heggies-estate-chardonnay-2019>

2005 Grampians Estate Chardonnay Bright gold. Very mature but remarkably fresh. Still drinks well. (Not available) ★★★★★☆

2019 Whimwood Blackwood Valley Chardonnay Ripe white peach and citrus aroma enhanced by overtones of oak and “funky” notes.

(\$345.00 per dozen) ★★★★★☆

https://www.whimwoodstatewines.com.au/store/p123/2019_Chardonnay_-_12_bottles.html

2020 Pike and Joyce Sirocco Chardonnay White peach with gooseberry overtone. Good weight and texture. Touch of greenness.

(Not available) ★★★★★

2020 Handpicked Wines Highbow Hill Vineyard Yarra Valley Chardonnay Ripe, peachy, good oak integration. Rich and creamy.

(\$69.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.handpickedwines.com.au/2020-highbow-hill-vineyard-yarra-valley-chardonnay-limit-12-bottles-per-customer>

2020 Hutton Wines Reserve Margaret River Chardonnay Ripe with green notes. Strong funk. Big flavour and interesting mix of fruit and artefact. (\$90.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.huttonwines.com/shop/hutton-triptych-reserve-chardonnay-2018>

2017 Terra Felix Regional Selection Yarra Valley Chardonnay

Fresh and peachy. Attractive creamy palate. (\$40.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.terrafelix.com.au/product/yarra-valley-chardonnay-2017/>

2020 Paringa Estate The Paringa Mornington Peninsula

Chardonnay White peach. Classy oak. Good grip. Just enough weight.

Fresh. (Not available) ★★★★★

2019 Robert Stein Reserve Mudgee Chardonnay Peachy and fresh.

Good fruit weight and oak integration. (\$60.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.robertstein.com.au/wine/2019-reserve-chardonnay>

2020 Paringa Estate Mornington Peninsula Chardonnay Simple

white peach. Nice creamy palate. (\$41.52) ★★★★★

<https://www.winesquare.com.au/catalog/product/view/id/24513/s/2020-paringa-estate-chardonnay-mornington-peninsula/>

2020 Santolin Gladysdale Yarra Valley Chardonnay Ripe, rich and peachy. Slight oak firmness. (\$45.00) ★★★★★

<https://santolinwines.com.au/products/2020-santolin-gladysdale-chardonnay?>

2020 Sittella Margaret River Reserve Buckshot Ridge Chardonnay

Restrained white peach. Nice oak. Creamy and long. (Not available)

★★★★★

2019 Clemens Hill Aurelia Tasmania Chardonnay Fresh peach.

Quite buttery. Creamy and lively, with good acid. (Not available)

★★★★★

2020 Chapel Hill Gorge Block Chardonnay Fresh and peachy. Hint of lees. Good weight and texture. (\$176.00 per half dozen) ★★★★★
<https://shop.cellars.com.au/product/chapel-hill-2020-mclaren-vale-wine-show-trophy-gorge-block-chardonnay-6-bottles-mclaren-vale/>

2020 A. Rodda Willowlake Vineyard Yarra Valley Chardonnay
 Intense white peach. Nice oak. Hint of funk. Vibrant. Slightly lean.
 (\$45.00) ★★★★★
<http://www.mwwines.com.au/museum-wine-shop/wines/wine-item/A-Rodda/Willowlake-Vineyard-Chardonnay/Chardonnay/2020/04675180530202000001>

2020 Sidewood Mappinga Chardonnay Ripe peach plus oak. Forward and oaky. ★★★★★☆

2019 Blue Gables Vineyard Jesse Chardonnay Ripe, peachy, forward. Spicy oak. ★★★★★☆

2019 Eight at the Gate Family Selection Chardonnay
 Peachy/buttery. Ready. ★★★

2020 Leura Park Estate Chardonnay Full-flavoured. Verging on tropical. ★★★

2020 Ponting Tasmania Chardonnay Lean. On the green melon side. Has some texture. ★★★

2020 Peppertree Pump Shed Chardonnay Ripe intense peach, but forward. Rich and definitely ready. ★★★

Our 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	

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