



# Helen's Hill 2018 Breachley Block Chardonnay



## ABOUT

At Helen's Hill we are firmly of the belief that the Yarra Valley provides us as vigneronns with the perfect 'terroir' to produce the best Chardonnay's in Australia. The cool nights in summer maintain the acids, the hot days provide the intense fruit characteristics that all great chardonnays display. There is a planting of Chardonnay vines on our vineyard that thrive above all others in these areas. We call it Breachley. The Breachley Block of vines sits perched above the home of co-owners Andrew and Robyn McIntosh. Planted in 1983, these vines provide an aged character to the fruit that simply cannot be replicated within younger vines.

## WINEMAKERS NOTES

The fruit is handpicked and gently pressed. From there it is transferred to French oak barrels for 100% wild yeast ferment with full solids. Matured in French oak (30% new) for 10 months on fine lees, the result is Chardonnay with equal measures of intense stone fruit and peach characters, balanced with the perfect acid and French oak mouth feel.

## 2018 VINTAGE REPORT

Moderate rainfall in winter led into above average temperatures and a very successful flowering period of October and November. Generous rainfall throughout spring, along with warm spring temperatures, led to good yields. Flowering conditions were nigh on perfect and these conditions followed through into fruit set (early January). Warm but not extreme temperatures continued into summer and meant an early start to harvest. A dry March, with cool overnight temperatures, kept disease pressure low and allowed grapes to retain excellent natural acidity.

## TASTING NOTES

Subtle nuances of French Oak, flavours of white peach, grapefruits and lemons. Textured with creaminess and richness yet finishing with long crisp acidity. The wine rolls across the palate coating every corner of your mouth.

## Previous Vintage Awards

2017 - 96 points, James Halliday

2017- Decanter Asia Silver Medal - 92 points



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