



2019

‘SUN ON YOUR SKIN’ CHARDONNAY

Story

After a regional tasting of Margaret River chardonnay, we noticed that the method in which these wines were made was similar. Tasting 200 Chardonnay's and all had been made by whole bunch pressing, barrel fermentation and partial malolactic fermentation, the result was positive but all of the wines tasted similar. At L.A.S. VINO we aim to create wines that are different and delicious and given that we weren't happy with the status quo we wanted to turn this method on its head. Let's see what would happen to the chardonnay using a method normally reserved for red grapes and red wine (skin contact).

We hand picked chardonnay from a singular vineyard in the Willyabrup valley. Dry grown, gin gin clone 30 year old vines. The fruit was chilled overnight prior to bunch sorting and then berry sorting. The berries were left whole and the chardonnay fermented naturally on skins. We drained off some of the fermenting juice to barrique at 10 days, another lot of wine to a set of barrels at 20 days and a final two barrels were filled at 35 days skin contact. Only 6 barrels were made. The barrels went through a partial malolactic fermentation and tasted completely unique in comparison to 'traditional' chardonnay. The wine was left to soften and mature in oak for 14 months prior to blending and bottling.

You could call this an orange wine, but it really is like no orange wine we have tasted. The wine is full, smooth and easy drinking, with flavours of honey, peach and cooked pear. Almost like eating a warm apple pie with honey and cream on top. A truly unique expression of Chardonnay from the Margaret River region.

Winery

Variety: Chardonnay
Fermentation: Natural
Vessel: Aged barriques
Malo: Partial
Time: 14 months with lees stirring
Skin Contact: Average 20 days
Fining: None
Closure: Diam 10s / Wax
Sorting: Bunch and Berry sorting

Vineyard

Soil: Karri Loam
Elevation: 80m
Sub Region: Willyabrup
Method: *Sustainable*
Vine Age: 30 years
Vines: VSP
Sea: 3000m away
Picks: Singular hand pick

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