



MEDIA RELEASE

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Early success for Coldstream Hills Reserve Chardonnay 2007

The 2007 vintage of the Coldstream Hills Reserve Chardonnay has continued the label's successful run, winning Champion Wine of Show at the 2009 International Chardonnay Challenge in New Zealand, announced Friday night (29 May, 2009).

The wine also won Best International Chardonnay and Best Oaked Chardonnay at the show. The 2007's early haul could see it catch up to its predecessor – the 2006 Reserve Chardonnay – which won ten trophies on the Australian wine show circuit.

Elated Coldstream Hills winemaker Andrew Fleming says his team were having a belated celebration for the 2006 Reserve Chardonnay's trophy success when they heard the New Zealand results.

"I guess the 2007 Reserve Chardonnay surprised me more than the 2006 did – right from the word go I knew the 2006 would be smart but the 2007 has been a bit of a sleeper and needed a little more time to come together," Andrew said.

"The 2007 vintage was difficult – we had frost, drought and bush fires, but out of that we've managed to craft a pretty special wine," Andrew said.

The majority of the grapes for the Reserve Chardonnay come from the Coldstream Hills Briarston Vineyard, which has five Chardonnay clones. It produces Chardonnay with attractive fruit characters of white peach, citrus and quince. Barrel fermentation and maturation in new (65%) and one year old French oak barrels adds further complexity and texture to the wine.

Andrew says he seeks complexity in Coldstream Hills Chardonnay with attractive varietal fruit characters, underlying barrel fermentation and mineral notes, texture and length. Malolactic fermentation is not encouraged, in order to preserve natural acidity.

Coldstream Hills made approximately 550 cases of the 2007 Reserve Chardonnay. It has a recommended retail price of \$56 a bottle and it's available from Coldstream Hills Cellar Door (03 5964 9410), restaurants and leading fine wine retailers.

More information regarding the 2009 International Chardonnay Challenge can be found at: <http://www.internationalchardonnaychallenge.com>

For further Coldstream Hills information, bottle shots and tasting notes:

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