



Coldstream Hills

Sauvignon Blanc 2008

Sauvignon Blanc in the Yarra Valley produces a wine with attractive varietal characters of passionfruit and gooseberry. The ripening window for the variety is quite narrow, so regular tasting in the vineyard is vital. At Coldstream Hills, fruit is selected from cool site vineyards in the Upper and Lower Yarra.

Predominantly fermented at cool temperatures in stainless steel tanks, with a small portion barrel fermented in older French oak, the wine is blended, bottled and released three to four months after fermentation.

Winemaker Comments Andrew Fleming

Vineyard Region

Yarra Valley

Vintage Conditions

The growing season began well, as winter rainfall had provided some moisture to the soil and the risk of frost had been reduced. However, well below average spring rainfall caused considerable concern, with irrigation dams being at record low levels. Fortunately, late spring and early summer rains fell just at the right time, particularly as fruit set and crops were above average. A cool February allowed even ripening with good acid retention, however a blistering heatwave in March made conditions extremely difficult. A vintage with two distinctive halves, 2008 will be remembered as being compressed, hot and very challenging.

Technical Analysis

Harvest Date March 2008

pH 3.26

Acidity 6.70g/L

Alcohol 12.50%

Residual Sugar 0.3g/L

Bottling Date July 2008

Peak Drinking Now to 2010

Grape Variety

Sauvignon Blanc

Maturation

This wine was bottled immediately after blending to retain fruit freshness. A small portion went through fermentation in seasoned French oak for added texture and complexity.

Colour

Pale straw with a green tint.

Nose

The nose shows fragrant gooseberry characters with underlying passionfruit and lychee aromas. Minerally, stalky notes are evident and provide additional complexity.

Palate

The 2008 Coldstream Hills Sauvignon Blanc is a fine and elegant style with zesty lemon acidity and length. Varietal characters of passionfruit pulp and gooseberry dominate with hints of lemon peel in the background.