

# GIANT STEPS

YARRA VALLEY

## 2019 SEXTON VINEYARD CHARDONNAY



Appellation:	Yarra Valley
Varietals:	100% Chardonnay
Clones:	Mendoza
Harvested:	26 February 2019
Bottled:	25th November 2019
Alc/Vol (%):	13.0
TA (g/L):	8.48
pH:	3.14
Cellaring:	Now - six years

### SEASON:

A cool start to the season was punctuated by a few solid rain events in December that resulted in very large healthy green vineyard canopies. The final stage of the growing season was warmer than average which led to accelerated ripening, but the natural acids in all the chardonnay blocks was surprisingly high. Fruit was hand sorted in both vineyard and winery. 2019 is an exceptional chardonnay vintage.

### VINIFICATION:

100% hand picked

Whole bunch pressed, indigenous fermentation.

Indigenous fermentation in 500L French puncheons.

No batonage.

No malolactic fermentation.

Maturation for 10 months in new and used French oak – 20% new, 80% older. New oak was Taransaud and D&J.

### THE VINEYARD:

Location: Gruyere

Planted: 1997

Elevation: 130 - 210 metres

Soil Type: Grey clay loam over granite / ironstone.

Aspect: North facing slopes

Size: 30 Hectares

Located on the steep north facing slopes of the Warramate Ranges, the Sexton Vineyard is exposed and demanding. Being on the higher slopes, topsoil is thin and root systems have established themselves in shallow gravelly loams above a tough rocky clay base. Bunch yields set naturally low in this environment, resulting in intensely flavoured fruit with high skin to juice ratio.

Giant Steps - Vignerons & Winemakers

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