

# ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM



## Chardonnay 2023

**Grape Variety:** 100% Chardonnay

**Region:** 100% Limestone Coast

**Winemaker:** Corey Ryan

**Alcohol:** 13.5%

**Summary:** The Elephant in the Room wines are proudly large in scale and expansive in flavour. Ignoring fashion and braving the scorn “wine thought police” Elephant in the Room was created to give consumers exactly what they want – full bodied and mouth-filling wines that deliver maximum pleasure. Each wine is sourced from slow-ripening cool climate vineyards in the Limestone Coast of South Australia and partially matured in French Oak before final blending and bottling by Corey Ryan.

**Vineyards:** Sourced from established vineyards in the coastal Robe district of the limestone coast. The sheltered aspect and consistent temperatures combine to ensure the retention of natural acidity in the elegant fruit harvested.

**Winemaking:** Picked partially by hand. The majority of the blend was vinified in stainless steel with high solids and oxidative handling with fifteen barrel fermented with lees stirring. About forty percent was aged in medium toast two and three year old French oak barriques for six months to add complexity before full malolactic fermentation.

**Vintage 2023:** The winter and spring prior to the 2023 vintage was generally a little wetter and cooler than what is usual, delaying the start of vintage and meaning some extra care was required through the growing period. Whilst the vintage was indeed later than usual, there were some really beautiful parcels of fruit that benefited from being grown in sites where the slower ripening simply enabled flavour ripeness to be achieved with character & balance.

**Tasting Note:** soft yellow in appearance with an aromatic nose of stone fruit and citrus with notes of creamy vanillin oak. The mouthfeel here is full and rich whilst the fresh stone fruit character and integrated oak delivers impressive flavour and a creaminess to the finish. This is a seamless and unashamedly flavoursome Chardonnay with big fruit flavours, freshness and a lasting finish. Pair it with creamy chicken dishes and roasted potatoes.