

2020 CALGARDUP BROOK VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

Review Summary

97 pts - “Fruit from the Calgardup Brook vineyard (planted 1997) on coastal limestone loam. All single-vineyard chardonnays are made in the same way here, highlighting the differences in terroir: Hand picked, whole-bunch pressed, full solids, wild ferment in barrel (25% new) and 4 months' maturation, partial mlf, fortnightly bâtonnage. Where the Burnside is granitic, mineral and fine, this is pithy, saline and expansive, with layers of cheesecloth and lanolin amongst the ripe stone fruit. More volume and density of flavour than the Burnside (neither here nor there qualitatively, simply an observation), this is sensational. Utterly.”

*Erin Larkin, Halliday Wine Companion
3 August 2022*

96+ pts - “In contrast to the 2019 vintage (cool, wet), the 2020 vintage came on quickly, was warm, free of significant rain events and fruit was back in the sheds prior to Easter. The wines are distinct: the whites (Chardonnays in particular) are possessed of an effortless opulence with retained acidity, while the reds are singularly structural (many quite tannic) and lushly fruited. So, this 2020 Calgardup Brook Vineyard Chardonnay before me falls into that vintage stereotype: it is plush and cushioned in the mouth, with depth and breadth in the mid-palate. There's enough acidity here to tighten up the profile through the finish while savory spice and exotic pan-roasted nuts adorn the fruit—salted peach and preserved lemon are the lingering characters. It has good, tight yellow grapefruit acid. This may be a touch more obvious/open than the 2019, but it is incredibly satisfying and plush.”

*Erin Larkin, Wine Advocate
7 July 2022*

95 pts - “20km South of Margaret River in the Forest Grove parish with free draining coastal soils (a mix of limestone and sand-loam). Wine tends to be the most mineral of the 3 chardonnay's and is definitely the coolest site. Very close to the ocean this site cops the full front of the sea breeze which gives the wine a distinctive salty edge.

White peach, green apple, citrus and salt, some cashew, mint and spice. Smooth, a little creamy cashew, cool feel with tangy grapefruit acidity, juicy and chalky, with a long nutty and delicious finish. Lovely.”

*Gary Walsh, The Wine Front
22 March 2022*



93 pts - “Intense grapefruit aroma leads, backed by some chopped herb notes, creamy lees and nougat notes too, the palate light-medium weighted and firmed by some grippy tannins. Excellent wine in a generous, full-bodied style, and has room to grow.”

*Huon Hooke, The Real Review
12 January 2023*

94 pts - “Aromas of flint stones, dried lemons, buttered toast, green apples and dried pineapples. Sharp and focused with a medium body. Builds and opens up to sea shells and minerals. Serious chardonnay.”

*James Suckling
07 November 2022*

96 pts – “The fineness and delicacy of this wine is very much a part of this vineyard. This is another cracking wine. Deep cashew and light butterscotch aromas with a little meal grapefruit and a trace of citrus. The palate is tightly held but releases with gathering momentum to its finish. A chalkier acidity is a feature.”

*Ray Jordan
November 2022*