



2023 CALGARDUP BROOK VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

Review Summary

96 pts - “Of all the 2023 single releases from McHenry Hohnen, this is the most stylish wine with an equal mix of subtlety and power. Beautifully refined as it offers up wafts of lemon rind and grapefruit with seaspray complexity and well integrated French oak. Compact and focussed in shape as firm acidity underpins concentrated salted grapefruit and chalky complexity over a lengthy and sustained finish. Young, and built for the long haul.”

*Angus Hughson, Wine Pilot
October 2024*

95 pts - “Sophisticated aromas of oyster shells, flint, limes and lemon peel. The palate is very focused and precise, with high-energy acidity and a textural mouthfeel, giving notes of grapefruit, green apples, sea spray and quince. Very refined and vivid with underlying power.”

*James Suckling, James Suckling.com
24 November 2024*

94+ pts - “The 2023 Calgardup Brook Vineyard Chardonnay offers a spicy, complex nose of salted cashews, chamomile tea, white flowers, fresh pressed linen, crushed seashells and dried herbs. The palate reflects this offering, and the finish fans out into a wide display of phenolics and pronounced sulfides. I love the acidity and the purity of the fruit; however, the finish feels quite weighty and wide, out of step with the initial impression. It's a complex wine of dappled impact in the mouth, one that will very likely come together in time. One year from harvest truly is such an early interval at which to open these wines, I am astounded each year that producers release their wines so early. It is not that the wines are not ready to drink, it is that the wines are not even hinting at their future potential in their current, inchoate stage of development. Margaret River, which is predominated by the Gingin Chardonnay clone, makes wines so infinitely more complex and pleasurable when viewed three to five years after their grapes are picked, as opposed to on release. An opinion that is so frequently reaffirmed by my drinking practice. In short, patience... 13% alcohol, sealed under screw cap.”

*Erin Larkin, Wine Advocate
22 November 2024*

94 pts - “Light lemon to straw yellow in the glass. Ripe yellow nectarine, sweet pastry and caramelised hazelnut aromatics. A powerful palate, serious fruit intensity at the core and that offers a great base for multiple layers of complexing nut, flint and bacon fat character to be layered upon. With all that power, equal amounts of structural framework have been engaged. Acidity drives and controls it very well, ensuring great length and a crispness into the finish.”

*Stuart Knox, Real Review
8 February 2025*

94 pts - “Traditionally the more delicate of the three top-tier chardonnays. This is a wonderful example of the vineyard and style. Fragrant and intense on the nose with floral grapefruit, cashew and light lemon curd influences. There’s a little of that limestone character as well adding to its crystalline feel. The palate is tightly wound and deeply powerful with a tight inner core. Finishes with a little savouriness that balances it perfectly.”

*Gary Walsh, The Wine Front
25 September 2024*

97 pts - “Traditionally the more delicate of the three top-tier chardonnays. This is a wonderful example of the vineyard and style. Fragrant and intense on the nose with floral grapefruit, cashew and light lemon curd influences. There’s a little of that limestone character as well adding to its crystalline feel. The palate is tightly wound and deeply powerful with a tight inner core. Finishes with a little savouriness that balances it perfectly.”

*Ray Jordan, Ray Jordan Wine
2024*