

Briar Ridge



Signature Range

2021 'STOCKHAUSEN' Chardonnay

Crafted as a tribute to legendary Hunter winemaker, Karl Stockhausen, this range honours both his invaluable contribution to the success of Briar Ridge and also to the success of the Hunter Valley wine industry. Passionate and ever dedicated, Karl Stockhausen is engrained in the Hunter terroir.

VINTAGE

2021 began with an unusually cool weather pattern as a result of a 'La Niña' influence. Luckily a break of classic warm days and cool nights in early January led to exceptional flavour development with natural acidity retention resulting in a strong suite of whites. More moderate weather for the remainder of the growing season has led to reds of elegance and lovely floral lift.

VINEYARD

Our Chardonnay is grown on well-drained sandy loam soils located in the heart of Hunter Valley wine country NSW. The vineyard has drip irrigation installed on each vine row to ensure vine health and consistency of quality. The crop yields are relatively low, producing excellent concentration of fruit flavour.

WINEMAKING

After whole bunch pressing the juice was chilled to 12°C, then cold settled. Once settled the semi cloudy juice was racked to oak barrels for wild yeast fermentation at 18-22°C for 10 days. The fermentation was carried out in new and 1 year old large French oak casks. The wine received extended maturation on yeast lees with occasional lees stirring. After 10 months in the oak casks the wine was racked to a stainless steel vessel, stabilised, fined and filtered for bottling.

TASTING NOTES

The Stockhausen Chardonnay has been created in the traditional style that has made the Hunter Valley famous. This 2021 Chardonnay highlights citrus blossom and white peach flavours on the palate complemented by cashew and toasty oak on the finish.

CELLARING

Excellent drinking while young or will gain complexity with careful cellaring up to ten years.

ALC VOL: 12.5% | STD DRINKS: 7.4 | BOTTLED: December 2021

pH: 3.48 | TA: 6.2 g/l



Briar Ridge Vineyard

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