



M A R L B O R O U G H

Ra Nui Marlborough Wairau Valley Chardonnay 2010

Vineyards

Grapes were sourced from a single vineyard, in the Wairau Valley. This vineyard is comprised of stony free draining soils of low natural fertility with Mendoza and Clone 95 , two high quality Chardonnay clones planted. The vineyard is long established and run on organic principles.

Season 09/10

The growing season started very well with a warm Spring period, with some nice rain, resulting in a perfect flowering for early varieties such as Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

However December was quite cold and January followed suit, forgetting that it was the peak of summer! In February it finally started to warm up and it also got very dry (combined rainfall for February and March was just 21mm). We then had a glorious spell of fine warm weather right through until the end of vintage. All grapes were hand picked and transported immediately to the winery.



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Vinification

The hand picked fruit was immediately transported to the winery and on arrival transferred directly onto a conveyor and directly into the press. The whole bunches were given a very light and slow “champagne” style press resulting in a low extraction of free run and lightly pressed juice.

All juice was then gravity feed into a mixture of older French oak 225 litre barriques. The barriques were stored in a cool room for a week to rest at lower temperature prior to the room being warmed and a natural fermentation (no cultured yeast added) commencing. The wine then rested on lees, with a gentle malolactic fermentation in the spring occurring prior to the wine being racked, blended gently and lightly filtered prior to bottling.

Colour/Smell/T

Clear/pale straw with green hints. The nose exhibits stone fruit and citrus characters with a hint of oak. On the palate apple, pear and white peach flavours, crisp and pure flavours. A lighter Chardonnay style, food friendly with recognisable cool climate crispness on the finish.

