



## 2008 PLANTAGENET GREAT SOUTHERN CHARDONNAY

**WINEMAKER:** John Durham  
**REGION:** Grown on the Rocky Horror and Wyjup vineyards in Western Australia's Great Southern region  
**VARIETALS:** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION:** 9 months in 25% new French oak  
**ANALYSIS:** 13.8% alc/vol | 6.7g/LTA | 3.31 pH | 1.2g/LRS

### VINTAGE:

2008 saw useful rains and vigorous growth segue to dry, mild conditions prevailing January to end of February. Vines thrived and flavors intensified nicely in a low-disease and pestilence-free environment. Fruit ripened steadily but surely under the ideal conditions, resulting in flavorsome, lively wines, with well defined varietal flavors.

### WINEMAKING:

All fruit for the 2008 Chardonnay was hand picked and whole bunch pressed with the aim of producing clean, clear juice and minimizing phenolic extraction. The juice was then fermented in barrel with indigenous yeast strains for additional complexity and palate texture. Malolactic fermentation is discouraged to retain the purity of fruit and vibrant acidity, while maturation in 25% new French oak for 9 months with regular lees stirring provides great palate texture.

### TASTING NOTES:

The 2008 Chardonnay displays a lovely array of lemon, quince and melon aromas that sit in harmony with the winemaking-derived characters of creamy, vanilla custard and almond meal. The supple, lithe palate has a fine core of acid with an abundance of crisp, vibrant citrus fruit flavors, subtle oak undertones a long, focused finish.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 91+ pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 90 pts Tanzer's Intl. Wine Cellar, 90 pts Wine Spectator, 86 pts Wine Enthusiast

### ABOUT PLANTAGENET:

An historic producer, Plantagenet Wines was the first winery to be established in Western Australia's Great Southern wine region. Named after the local Shire of Plantagenet, the winery was founded in 1968 when English immigrant Tony Smith identified the potential of these wild and remote lands by planting vines on his Mount Barker property. His initial plantings impressed, producing Rhône-style Shirazes and stylish Cabernet Sauvignons, soon to be joined by Pinot Noir, Riesling and Chardonnay. These aromatic varieties thrived in the cool, continental climate, and Plantagenet has gone on to become one of the leading names in the region, as well as a driving force in establishing the Great Southern as a distinctive,



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