



2010 PLANTAGENET GREAT SOUTHERN CHARDONNAY

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| WINEMAKER : | Cath Oates |
| REGION : | Grown on the Crystal Brook and Wyjup vineyards in Western Australia's Great Southern region |
| VARIETALS : | Chardonnay (Gin Gin clone) |
| MATURATION : | 9 months in 100% French oak (25% new) |
| ANALYSIS : | 13.9% alc/vol TA: 7.4 g/L pH: 3.3 |

VINTAGE :

A promising start to the season with useful rains and mild conditions from spring to early summer allowed for vigorous vine growth. With dry, mild conditions prevailing January to end of February, flavors intensified nicely in a relatively disease and pestilence free environment. Fruit ripened steadily but surely under the ideal conditions, with harvest occurring during the first two weeks of March.

WINEMAKING :

Fruit is hand-picked from Plantagenet's Wyjup and Crystal Brook vineyards that are mostly planted with the Gin Gin clone of Chardonnay. This clone produces a high level of 'hen and chicken' bunches, intensely flavored and higher natural acidity due to the very low yields. The fruit is whole bunch pressed with the aim of producing clean, clear juice and minimizing phenolic extraction. The juice is 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 nine months with regular lees stirring provides great palate texture.

TASTING NOTES :

Lemon, quince and nectarine fruits integrate beautifully with winemaking derived aromas to impart a creamy, vanilla custard note with a dash of almond meal. A supple, lithe palate with a fine core of acid, loads of mouth filling texture adding dimension to the vibrant fruit notes. A harmonious wine with a clean finish and delicious lingering flavors.

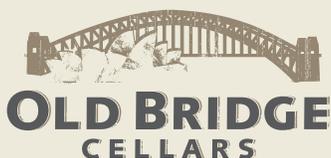
CRITICAL ACCLAIM : 94 pts Australian Wine Companion, 91 pts Wine Enthusiast, 90 pts Wine Spectator

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, quality-focused Australian wine region.



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703 Jefferson Street, Napa, California 94559

Tel (707) 258 9552 • Fax (707) 258 9577 • www.obcwines.com • cellar@obcwines.com