

GIANT STEPS

VIGNERONS

YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



2011 GIANT STEPS TARRAFORD VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER : Phil Sexton & Steve Flamsteed
REGION : Tarrawarra - Yarra Valley, Victoria
VARIETALS : Chardonnay (Clone: P58)
MATURATION : 9 months in 100% French oak (25% new)
ALCOHOL : 12.8% alc/vol

VINEYARD :

Located on twenty-one acres in a protected valley, and established in 1988, Tarraford Vineyard has a discrete microclimate which is cooler than neighboring sites. Its diverse aspects (north, south and east facing slopes) and rocky clay loam soils provides multifaceted winemaking opportunities. Giant Steps is committed to exploring biodynamic farming practices with the overall aim personality of the site.

WINEMAKING :

The fruit was hand picked and whole bunch pressed to tank. The juice was transferred to barrel after eight hours of settling followed by a 100% indigenous yeast fermentation, in barrel at 65 - 75 degrees F. The lees were stirred weekly, then monthly between May and August during which time the wine underwent a 40% indigenous malolactic fermentation. The wine was racked to tank off lees in December and filtered and bottled in January 2012.

TASTING NOTES :

The 2011 Tarraford Vineyard Chardonnay is scented of orange blossom, pineapple and passion fruit with underlying suggestions of baker's yeast, butterscotch and a pleasant lift of lemon zest. Light to medium-bodied, it is well poised in the mouth with a touch of creamy texture and refreshing acidity supporting the citrus and tropical flavours, finishing long.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

92 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 92 pts Wine Enthusiast, 91 pts Wine Spectator, 90 pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate

ABOUT GIANT STEPS :

Established in 1998, Giant Steps explores the relationship between vineyard site, the Yarra Valley's cool climate, and different grape clones, to finely fingerprint the personality and character of each vineyard. The Sexton Vineyard, at the heart of the property, is a beautiful 75-acre, north facing hillside site located in the foothills of the Warramate ranges, rising from 425 to nearly 700 feet above the valley floor. A relatively cool site, management of this vineyard is intensive with all tasks, from pruning to harvesting, carefully done by hand.



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