

## 2013 GIANT STEPS TARRAFORD VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

### Review Summary



**97 pts** “The impact of this wine is achieved by stealth, the balance between fruit and acidity sheer perfection, leaving the flavors of white peach and nectarine to insinuate themselves on the long, lingering palate and aftertaste in the fashion that is the hallmark of Yarra Valley chardonnay at its best.”

**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion**  
2016

**95 pts** “Quite simple to begin, but opens up; has meal and cream, subdued kernel. But the palate has some power: a mix of granular and silky; chewy yet easy. Preserved pear, and a touch of (not really sweet) brûlée. Poised, powerful – in control.”

**Tim White, Australian Financial Review**  
November 2014

**95 pts** “It’s just such a lovely gentle sophisticated style: I was charmed at first taste. Subtle almond, white flowers, smoke, spice and white peach – all turned and toned down. Light to medium bodied, smooth and glossy with a gentle almond creaminess, pure acidity, a lightness of touch and delicacy, but a terrific length and control on the finish. A pleasure.”

**Gary Walsh, The Wine Front**  
September 2014

**93 pts** “Bright, light yellow color, the bouquet showing overt herbal notes which are just a touch green. It has appealing toasty nutty characters, too, and the palate is delicate, restrained, fresh and soft, with fine texture and balance.”

**Huon Hooke, HuonHooke.com**  
September 2014

**93 pts** “Pale gold. Highly perfumed aromas of fresh orchard fruits, tangerine, white flowers and smoky minerals are complemented by a deeper hint of toasty lees. From a relatively warm vineyard but shows plenty of energy, offering juicy pear and citrus fruit flavors and a touch of shiso leaf. Finishes nervy and long, with resonating spiciness and excellent focus.”

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar**  
July/August 2014



**93 pts** “From its supple texture to its length of flavor, this takes chardonnay in the direction of chamomile and fresh lemon cream. Pale floral notes and a gentle, nutty finish quiet the wine’s power, rounding the firm acid structure in richness. Toasty graham cracker scents and generous spice notes make it substantial enough for blanquette de veau.”

**Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits**  
**October 2014**

**92 pts** “Lovely lemon curd, white peach and mandarin-peel notes open on the nose of the 2013 Tarraford Vineyard Chardonnay with nuances of flint, ginger and cedar. Medium-bodied, it fills the palate with lively citrus and stone fruit flavors supported by a crisp spine of acid before finishing long and minerally.”

**Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate**  
**February 2015**

**90 pts** “Lean, fresh and polished, shading the pear and apple flavors with hints of green tea and spice, lingering nicely.”

**Harvey Steiman, Wine Spectator**  
**June 2015**

**90 pts** “This reasonably full-bodied Chardonnay manages to retain a sense of freshness and crispness throughout. Subtle oak and vanilla notes frame peach and pineapple fruit, while the finish is long and citrusy clean.”

**Joe Czerwinski, Wine Enthusiast**  
**June 2015**

## **GOLD MEDAL**

**Royal Melbourne 2014 Wine Awards**

**BEST AUSTRALIAN CHARDONNAY** “You know you are onto something when a wine still taste as delicious on day three as it did on day one. Such is the story with Giant Steps 2013 Tarraford Vineyard chardonnay from the Yarra Valley (\$45), a complete and well-knit wine for one so young. Winemaker Steve Flamsted puts its longevity after opening down to good tannins (yes, they’re there in whites). Or maybe it’s good management.”

**Jeni Port, GoodFood.com.au – “Best Australian Wines of 2014”**  
**December 9, 2014**