

GIANT STEPS

VIGNERONS
YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



2016 GIANT STEPS YARRA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER :	Phil Sexton & Steve Flamsteed
REGION :	Yarra Valley, Victoria
VARIETALS :	Chardonnay (Clones: Mendoza, 96, 76, 85, 78 & 227)
MATURATION :	10 months in French oak (20% new)
ANALYSIS :	13.5% alc/vol TA: 5.94 pH: 3.32

VINTAGE :

Bud burst was relatively early in 2016, and being followed by a dry, mild spring delivered the earliest start to flowering recorded. Perfectly timed rain events in late January gave the vineyard a much needed freshen up prior to picking. Harvest began very early with ideal flavors developing rapidly, crops were well-balanced and the berries had intense flavor and solid natural acidity. 2016 has proven to be one of the fastest vintages in Giant Steps history.

WINEMAKING :

The fruit was hand-picked and whole bunch pressed into tank. The juice was transferred to barrel after eight hours settling. Indigenous fermentation took place in 500L French oak puncheons at 60 - 74°F. Total time in oak was 10 months. The lees were stirred for the first two months only. No malolactic fermentation. The wine was transferred to tank in January for a light chill before being bottled unfiltered by gravity.

TASTING NOTES :

The nose offers aromas of lemon pith, white peach, crushed hazelnuts with mineral undertones. The palate is long, elegant and broad with beautiful creaminess from the extended aging on lees. A backbone of crisp and punchy acidity carries flavors of stone fruits, citrus and shortbread. A luscious and complex wine.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

89 pts Wine Spectator

ABOUT GIANT STEPS : Established in 1998, Giant Steps is owned by Phil Sexton and takes its name from the eponymous jazz album by John Coltrane as Coltrane consolidated his solo career after leaving Miles Davis and his band. From the biodynamically farmed estate and leased vineyards Giant Steps crafts two wine ranges. The Yarra Valley range is highly expressive, true to the climate, soil and topography of this region. The Single Vineyard range is produced from the most site-expressive fruit off the best vineyards in great years. Giant Steps wines are produced fastidiously in the vineyard and vinified with minimal intervention in its gravity flow winery.



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