

# GIANT STEPS

VIGNERONS  
YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



## 2016 GIANT STEPS YARRA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

**WINEMAKER :** Phil Sexton & Steve Flamsteed  
**REGION :** Yarra Valley, Victoria  
**VARIETALS :** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION :** 10 months in French oak (20% new)  
**ANALYSIS :** 13.5% alc/vol | TA: 5.94 | pH: 3.32

### VINTAGE :

2016 has proven to be one of the fastest vintages in Giant Steps' history. Bud burst was relatively early, 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.

### WINEMAKING :

The fruit was 100% hand-picked from Giant Steps' Sexton, Applejack and Tarraford vineyards and whole bunch pressed into tank. The juice was transferred to barrel after eight hours of settling. Indigenous fermentation took place in 500L French oak puncheons at 60 - 74°F. The total time in oak was 10 months and the lees were stirred for the first two months only. No malolactic fermentation. The wine was not filtered prior to being bottled by gravity.

### TASTING NOTES :

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

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM :** 93 pts Wine & Spirits

**ABOUT GIANT STEPS :** Established in 1998, Giant Steps is owned by Phil Sexton and takes its name from John Coltrane's eponymous first solo jazz album. Giant Steps' fruit is biodynamically farmed and vinified with minimal intervention in its gravity flow winery. The Yarra Valley range is highly expressive, true to the climate, soil and topography of this region. The Single Vineyard range is crafted from the most site-expressive fruit off the best vineyards in great years. Giant Steps has forged a reputation for delivering some of Australia's most consistent, over-performing, varietal wines reflected by its ongoing, enviable global acclaim including Wine & Spirits Top 100 Wineries of the Year, 2013-2016.



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