

# GIANT STEPS

VIGNERONS  
YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



## 2017 GIANT STEPS YARRA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

**WINEMAKER :** Phil Sexton & Steve Flamsteed  
**REGION :** Yarra Valley, Victoria  
**VARIETALS :** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION :** 7 months in French oak (20% new)  
**ANALYSIS :** 13.5% alc/vol | TA: 7.39 | pH: 3.16

### VINTAGE :

2017 was a textbook cool climate vintage. The preceding winter was cool to cold with good rainfall and ground saturation as the valley moved into spring. The growing season was characterized by intermittent rainfall with otherwise cool to mild days, bright sunshine and importantly, no temperature peaks. As a result, all varieties enjoyed slower ripening where acids, sugar and flavor stayed well in-sync. The resulting wines have terrific structure and detail, underpinned by crisp natural acidity and bright fruit.

### WINEMAKING :

The fruit was 100% hand-picked from Giant Steps' Sexton, Applejack, Gruyere Farm, Wombat Creek and Tarraford vineyards. Indigenous fermentation took place in 500L French oak puncheons at 60-74°F. The total time in oak was 7 months with the lees stirred for the first two months only. 30% of the puncheons underwent 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 :

94 pts JamesSuckling.com, 92 pts Wine Spectator

**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, 2013-2017.



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