

2017 GIANT STEPS YARRA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

Review Summary



94 pts “Simply put, this is one of the best value Australian chardonnays being made. It has a magic marriage of well-judged complexity with grapefruit, peaches, lemons and nectarines wrapped in a gun flinty and hazelnutty shroud of complexity. The palate merges pastry-like smoothness and concentration with electrifying acid freshness.”

Nick Stock
JamesSuckling.com
August 15, 2018

93 pts “This is the midpoint for Giant Steps, halfway up the price and quality ladder, but could stand as an emblem of Yarra Valley chardonnay at its price. For those wondering about the (no) mlf, look at the final titratable acidity of 7.39g/l and the pH of 3.16. This is a delicious, hands-off chardonnay, fresh white peach fruits its cornerstone.”

James Halliday
Halliday Wine Companion
2019

93 pts “This is the third year in a row that the Yarra Chardonnay from Giant Steps performed at the top of its range—alongside, or above, the winery’s single-vineyard wines, and above most other Aussie chardonnays. It’s a remarkable achievement for a \$30 wine. Steve Flamsteed is the force behind this persistently delicious chardonnay, blending it from five vineyards (mostly estate-grown), tending it in a gravity-flow winery where he allows the wine to ferment spontaneously in 500-liter puncheons, 20 percent new. Bottled without filtration, it retains the kind of supple meatiness and savory fruit notes that can make chardonnay from Yarra compelling. Here, it’s the clean peach succulence without any sweetness, and the persistent apple-blossom fragrance, that set it apart, along with that meaty note that suggests decanting it for a veal chop.”

Joshua Greene
Wine & Spirits Magazine
October 2018



92 pts “Complex, starting with a core of crisp Meyer lemon and grapefruit zest flavors, and hitting its stride on the finish, where delicate details of lanolin, green tea and peppery white flowers emerge, lingering effortlessly on the weightless frame.”

MaryAnn Worobiec
Wine Spectator
November 30, 2018

90 pts “Blended from the winery’s estate vineyards, the 2017 Chardonnay is a terrific reflection of the winemaking style here, showing positive hints of struck match, subtle toasted grain and butter notes, plus pear and melon aromas. It’s medium-bodied and crisp, with a silky texture and expanding citrusy notes that take over on the long finish.”

Joe Czerwinski
Robert Parker Wine Advocate
June 2018

