



Tasting notes

DEVIL'S LAIR MARGARET RIVER CHARDONNAY 2009

With a unique combination of climate (maritime), geography and geology, Devil's Lair celebrates wines of great clarity, delicacy of fruit and elegant structure. The philosophy of Devil's Lair is to make wines that define the region, respect the variety and above all, make complex, interesting wines. The Devil's Lair Chardonnay is sourced from estate vineyards, which are some of the most southerly in the Margaret River region.

WINEMAKER COMMENTS BY OLIVER CRAWFORD

VINEYARD REGION

Margaret River.

GRAPE VARIETY

Chardonnay.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

Margaret River had a very wet start to the year, with 931mm from May to the end of August, which still included the driest August on record (40mm of rain compared to an average of 151mm).

Unfortunately potential yields were damaged during budburst from two hail storms in November. Warmer conditions saw harvest occur earlier than anticipated, but ripening slowed in late March and early April. The overall crop was down approximately 20% but overall quality is very good, with whites performing higher than expected after the initial spring hail damage.

MATURATION

This wine was matured for nine months in 100% French oak barrels – 45% new with the remainder in seasoned French oak barrels.

COLOUR

Bright pale white with an avocado flesh hue.

NOSE

A wine that will need time or decanting as it is still in its infancy. Upon sitting in the glass, aromas of freshly cut white peach and red delicious apples combine with a subtle grapefruit undertone. The fruit dominates the oak.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Harvest Date March 2009

pH 3.26

Acidity 6.9g/L

Alcohol 13.0%

Residual Sugar 0.2g/L

Bottling Date February 2010

Peak Drinking Now – 2018

PALATE

Intense mid palate fruits range from fresh citrus through to stone fruit. Barely apparent barrel characters – creamy nougat and walnuts – are seamlessly integrated with the fruit. Fresh, lively natural acid gives the wine length and depth.

This wine will benefit from decanting.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

GOLD MEDAL – 2010 INTERNATIONAL CHARDONNAY CHALLENGE IN CLASS 1B

GOLD MEDAL – 2010 QANTAS WINE SHOW OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA MT BARKER IN CLASS 12

96 POINTS – RAY JORDAN'S 2011 WA WINE GUIDE

