

ISABEL
ESTATE

MARLBOROUGH

Marlborough Chardonnay

Jeremy McKenzie

CHARDONNAY
SYMPOSIUM



2022 Vintage - Marlborough

A typically warm October, November and December allowed for sound fruit set, however an unusually cold and wet February increased the potential for disease pressure and delayed ripening, threatening a successful harvest.

Thankfully a dry and warm period from late February until late March allowed us to pick Chardonnay and Pinot Noir at Isabel Estate in an ideal harvest window, with Chardonnay in excellent fruit condition- however was a tougher ripening/picking period for Pinot Gris and Sauvignon Blanc.



CHARDONNAY
SYMPOSIUM

Sub-Regional Differentiation

Isabel Estate

Confluence of Southern Valleys and Wairau Valley - north side Omaka River, very cold site, sometimes 2c colder than Te Whare Ra 500m to the north, soils medium loam over clay/gravel mix. Elevation 60m. Rainfall 795mm.

Taylor's Pass

Awatere Valley - north side Awatere River - Elevated river terrace, high wind run, inland -no coastal influence, shorter growing season, soils - Shallow stony loam/stony silt, over greywacke, immature recent soils. Elevation 96m. Rainfall 665mm.

Microclimate key to both sites - can be significant diurnal flux - acidity retention - creation of wines with concentration and energy

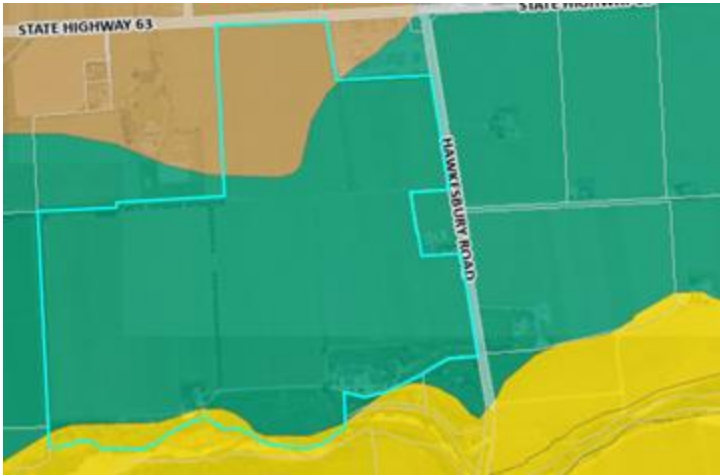
Unique Vineyard Sites

“Expression of a place in a moment of time”



Soil Contrast: Isabel estate underground cellar excavation & the Awatere variation





Isabel Estate soil Medium
loam over clay/gravel mix

Taylor Pass Soil

Shallow stony loam/silt, immature
recent



Clonal Variation & Viticulture

Isabel Estate - Mendoza 100%

- Significant hen and chicken - loose bunch architecture, traditionally low crop,
- Block 3 farmed organically
- Block 1 mechanically weeded, organic in conversion
- Compost application made on site Bi -annual to date

Taylor's Pass - Clone 95 100% - conventionally sprayed

- A typical Chardonnay blend in a white burgundy may contain varying portions of Clone 95, 548 and the 1000 series - 1066-68 - more like Isabel Estate Single Vineyard Blend as opposed to Isabel Estate Wild Barrique based solely on mendoza

NZ Chardonnay wines have tended to rely on Mendoza, B95, UCD 6/15 and the newer Entav 548 - all of which Isabel Estate farms

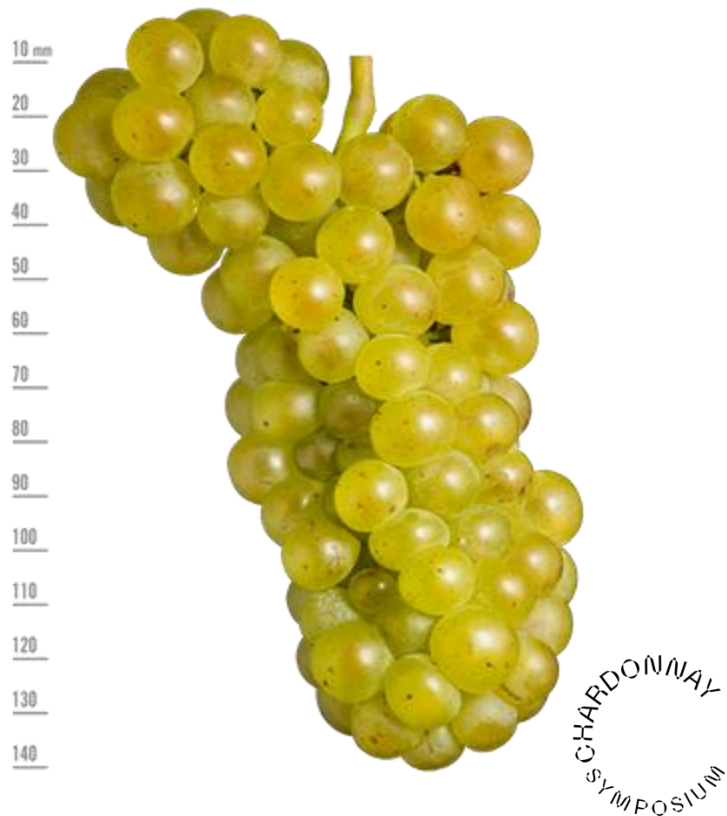
Mendoza Clone

- The Mendoza Clone was imported from CSIRO Australia by David Sheat in 1971
- Mendoza yields low to moderate crops of medium clusters, prone to some hen and chicken formation. Therefore, produces rich and intense wines.
- It was and still is for many - the preferred clone for premium Chardonnay
- Are we working with Mendoza variants?



Clone 95

- Popular clone capable of producing excellent wines of weight, balance & complexity
- Productive, rather large, tight conical-shaped bunches that can become susceptible to rot
- Imported by Allan Clarke for NZGVIG (1988) directly from Prof. Raymond Bernard (ONIVINS Dijon, Burgundy)



Tasting



Winery	Isabel Estate	Villa Maria
Viticulturist	Jeremy McKenzie	Ian Buck
Winemaker	Jeremy McKenzie	Helen Morrison
Wine	2022 Isabel Estate Single Vineyard Wild Barrique Chardonnay	2022 Villa Maria Taylor's Pass Single Vineyard
Region/Appellation	Marlborough	Marlborough
Sub region(s)	Wairau Valley	Northern Banks of Awatere River
Wine RRP \$	\$38	\$50
Cases produced	600	500