

# SACRED HILL



*Rifleman's*

CHARDONNAY 2009



## WINEMAKERS NOTE

Lifted complex aromas with hazelnut, cashew, citrus blossom, fig and white nectarine. Very layered and multi-faceted.

Very smooth entry with beautiful silky texture enshrouded with fine and persistent citrus acidity. The medley of aromas flows to the palate with nutty complexity, fig and citrus peel characters. Very long and elegant.

*Winemaker | Tony Bish*

## VINTAGE SUMMARY

Vintage 2009 will be regarded in the future as one of Hawke's Bays most outstanding vintages in the last decade or quite possibly longer. Following a warm and dry spring with good flowering weather, we moved into a very hot dry period in January and February, followed by a brilliant autumn extending into late March and April. This allowed us to ripen fruit to the exact point we desired, without pressure from any significant rain events, a luxury not often afforded and very much enjoyed! Rifleman's Chardonnay is a classic, and the reds from our Gimblett gravels vineyards are absolutely exceptional!

## VINIFICATION

Hand picked grapes were very gently whole bunch pressed to barrel. Fermented with indigenous yeasts, and aged 12 months in new and one year old French oak.

## TECHNICAL DATA

REGION	Hawkes Bay	VARIETY	Chardonnay
APPEARANCE	Pale Straw	STYLE	Full bodied dry white
SERVE	Ambient	CELLARING	5-9 Years
RS	<2.00 g/L	ALCOHOL	14%
PH	3.5	TA	6.5 g/L