



## *The Wine Thief Series*

### SACRED HILL

#### HAWKE'S BAY CHARDONNAY

2009

#### *Tasting Notes*

Lifted aromas of nougat, white flowers, hazelnut and lemon meringue. Extraordinary intense palate, with ripe citrus peel, fine minerality and great persistence on the palate. Powerful yet elegant the purity of fruit expression is complemented with nutty oak and lees complexity

#### *Vintage Summary*

Vintage 2009 will be regarded in the future as one of Hawke's Bays most outstanding red vintages in the last decade or longer.

Following a warm and dry spring with good flowering weather, we moved into a very hot dry period in January, extending into late March. 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!

#### *Vinification*

Hand picked grapes were whole bunch pressed to French oak barriques for natural fermentation. Lees aged with periodic battonage.

Winemaker | Tony Bish

Region | Hawke's Bay

Appearance | Pale straw

Serve | Lightly Chilled

RS | <1 g/L

pH | 3.44

Variety | Chardonnay

Style | Full bodied barrel Fermented

Cellaring | 3-5 years

Alcohol | 13.0%

TA | 6.5 g/L

Packaging | 6 x 750ml bottles

*The 'Wine Thief' is a traditional winemaker's tool used to extract sample wines for tasting. Usually made from glass, the thief is the winemakers' best friend as they look for special wines. The Wine Thief Series has been developed to show the passion and pursuit of excellence that these hand selected wines represent.*

