







Awarded a Red 5 Star Winery Rating by James Halliday Wine Companion

## 2017 Wombat Creek Yarra Valley Chardonnay

HANDPICKED

WOMBAT CREEK VINEYARD

Chardonnay

Yarra Valley



"Our first vintage as owners of this remarkable vineyard and what a vintage! Cool, calm and classy." - Peter Dillon

The Region: Wombat Creek, Yarra Valley Planted on hills at 430m elevation near Mount Donna Buang, Wombat Creek is the highest vineyard in the Yarra Valley, making it uniquely situated for production of premium cool climate wines. Mature Pinot Noir and Chardonnay vines are planted in free-draining volcanic loam on steep slopes that allow frost to drain away. This is a true cool climate vineyard with reliable annual rainfall of around 1200mm. Wombat Creek rises in a spring-fed pond at the bottom of the vineyard. The surrounding forest, fern gullies and creeks are home to platypus, lyrebirds, kangaroos, wallabies and, of course, wombats.

**The Wine:** Planted on dramatic slopes at high elevation in the Upper Yarra Valley, Wombat Creek Vineyard has cool, extended seasons that are ideally suited to Chardonnay and produce wines of great elegance, clarity and length.

**Technical Info:** Vintage 2017...dreams are made of this. Not too hot, not too cold, neither too windy nor too humid, too wet or dry. Just enough, and not too much, of everything so that the true personality of the site can take centre stage. The moderate season allowed the vines to ripen slowly, building great depth of flavour while retaining fine balance in sugar and acid. Harvest began in mid-March, a little later than the long-term average and a full month behind the recordearly vintage of 2016

This wine combines two Chardonnay clones-i10v1 and Dijon-76. The fruit was harvested in mid-March and was chilled overnight before processing. It was whole-bunch pressed and wild fermented in barrel. A portion of barrels underwent malolactic fermentation, according to winemaker assessment. The wine was matured for 11 months in the same barrels, a mix of old and new mainly Taransaud and Mercurey coopers.