

GRAFT
WINE COMPANY

TAMAR VALLEY CHARDONNAY / BELLWETHER / 2016 / TASMANIA / AUSTRALIA

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PRODUCER

Bellwether is the brainchild of Sue Bell, based in the 1868 Glen Roy Shearing Shed in Coonawarra. Sue makes wines in Coonawarra as well as other regions of Australia, including as far afield as Tasmania. Her selection of fruit is classics from cool climates but also playing with mediterranean varieties suited to dry climates. Climate change underlies every decision in winemaking for Bellwether wines, from appropriate varietal/region matches to sustainable winemaking. Texture and complexity intrigue Sue and are hallmarks of how her wines are made - 100% indigenous yeast and gently handled.

BELLWETHER

VITICULTURE + VINIFICATION

The valley lies at a latitude of around 42° south, and has similar cool climate characteristics to the Côte d'Or in Burgundy. The vineyards are mostly located close to the Tamar river itself, particularly on its southern side to the north and south of Exeter. Hand-picked to preserve the fruit and fermented using the indigenous yeasts of the vineyard ahead of being transported (as juice) back to Sue's small winery in Coonawarra. Whole bunch pressed directly into tight grain, large 500-litre French oak barrels for natural fermentation. Full malolactic fermentation takes place. The French oak barrels impart some flavour, well-integrated, and delivering a creamy texture.

TASTING NOTE

This cool-climate Tamar Valley Chardonnay has that inviting 'struck match' aroma reminiscent of fireworks, giving way to a tightly focused citrus flavour, some ripe melon. Extraordinary texture and mouthfeel, and very long.

FACTS + STATS

WINEMAKER	SUE BELL
VARIETIES	100% CHARDONNAY
APPELLATION	TASMANIA
CLOSURE	SCREW TOP
ALCOHOL	12.5%
BIODYNAMIC	NO
VEGAN	YES
VEGETARIAN	YES
TOTAL SULPHUR	__NULL MG/L
CASE SIZE	12

