

# Pā Road

## Pā Road Marlborough Chardonnay 2021 Winemaker's technical and tasting notes



### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

#### Variety

100% Chardonnay

#### Vineyard Locations

72% Central Wairau Valley

32% Southern Valleys

#### Wine analysis

Alc – 13.5%

pH – 3.35

T.A – 5.3

R.S– 2 g/L

### Vineyards

The fruit comes from a selection of great vineyard sites in Marlborough's Wairau and Southern Valleys. The majority of the blend comes from four vineyards in the Central Wairau Valley. The soils for these sites are all silt loams overlying alluvial gravels. These sites contribute ripe stonefruit flavours and tropical aromatics. The north facing Southern Valleys sites are warm and sheltered with more clay based soils. These sites contribute richness and texture to the wine.

### Winemaking

The fruit was machine-picked and then gently pressed directly to a mix of barrels and tanks. Fermentation occurred with a mix of indigenous and cultured yeasts. The wine was then left to mature in its fermentation vessels on lees with occasional stirring for a further 9 months, before being racked and blended. This wine underwent 85% malo-lactic fermentation.

### Tasting note

This gently oaked Chardonnay possesses an abundance of stone fruit married with vanilla and butterscotch aromas.

Texturally this wine is silky and rich. The palate has a ripe fruit character, tempered by smooth vanilla oak and hints of spice and marzipan.

### Vintage Summary

The resounding theme of the 2021 vintage was the low yield and the outstanding quality of the fruit harvested.

The growing season was warm and compressed, with early season frosts leading into cold and unsettled weather at flowering. The resulting bunches were small with low berry counts, which decreased yields but added greatly to the concentration of the wines. Post-flowering the growing season was warm and settled, with just enough early season rain to keep the canopies green and healthy.

The grapes were harvested in pristine condition at optimal ripeness and the resulting wines display great fruit purity and generosity.

### Awards & Accolades

- 92 Points & Premium, Cameron Douglas MS
- 91 Points & 4 1/2 Stars, Wine Orbit
- 4 Stars, Candice Chow for Raymond Chan Wine Reviews

### Resources

For high resolution bottle shots visit [www.tepawines.com](http://www.tepawines.com)

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