



Čuvar Guardians Collection Chardonnay 2024

VINTAGE

The 2024 vintage will go down as one of the finest ever seen in Hawke's Bay. A cool, extended flowering period in spring 2023 resulted in lower than average yields, naturally concentrating flavours.

The remainder of the growing season was near perfect, with warm days and cool nights allowing the grapes to ripen slowly and evenly.

VINEYARD

Rivermere - 73%

Located on the southern banks of the Ngaruroro River. Young, deep and free draining alluvial gravels.

Kokako Farms - 17%

On the northern banks of the Ngaruroro River in the Ohiti Gravels sub region. A dry and warm microclimate perfect for ripening chardonnay.

Mere Road - 10%

Planted on a river terrace of silt and gravel formed by the Ruhanui tributary of the Ngaruroro river.

TECH NOTES

PH : 3.5	TA : 6.64gl	ALC : 13.5%	Residual Sugar : Dry
Standard Drinks : 8.0		Variety : Chardonnay	Clone : 15, 548, Mendoza
Bottled: March 2025		Vegan Friendly	Vine Age : 10-30 years

WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

Notes of ripe nectarine and lemon zest, interwoven with a distinct mineral thread. Subtle hints of roasted cashew, derived from carefully selected oak and thoughtful lees ageing, add depth and complexity.

The palate is unctuous and creamy, its generous weight beautifully balanced by fresh, vibrant acidity. Gentle oak spice and delicate savouriness flow seamlessly through to a long, mouth-filling finish.

WINEMAKING

FRUIT HANDLING:

Picked early in the morning to retain freshness, pressed to tank for a short settling period before fermentation.

FERMENTATION VESSEL & MATURATION:

36% new, 49% one year old and 15% older seasoned French oak barriques.

Lees stirred for several months to aid palate weight and increased complexity.

Approximately 70% malolactic fermentation.

10 months on yeast lees prior to blending.

