ΟΧ HARDY

## 2023 ADELAIDE HILLS CHARDONNAY

## BACKGROUND

Though Ox has worked across many South Australian regions, a large part of his career was spent crafting Chardonnay for Petaluma in the Adelaide Hills. He also lives in the Hills and Chardonnay is his favourite drop, so an Ox Hardy Adelaide Hills Chardonnay was a natural extension to the range. Ox captures the unique expression of the region each vintage, delicately playing with oak to add a subtleness that keeps your palate guessing well after the finish. and intent.

## WINEMAKING

2023 was a mild and wet growing season followed by a mild summer and vintage. The fruit for this wine was sourced from three vineyards in Lobethal, Balhannah and Piccadilly. The fruit was crushed and pressed before being transferred to oak for 100% barrel fermentation of which 35% was new. The wine underwent partial malolactic fermentation before maturing in 35% new oak, the remainder old oak in large and small format for eight months. The lees were stirred fortnightly for the duration.

| Winemaker   | Andrew Hardy   |
|-------------|--|
| Appellation | Adelaide Hills   |
| Variety     | 100% Chardonnay  |
| Vintage     | 2023   |
| Colour      | Straw  |
| Aroma       | Nectarines, yellow peach and grapefruit with a hint of hazelnut and flint                          |
| Palate      | Stone fruits continue on the palate with grapefruit and spice interplaying into a textural palate. |
| Alcohol     | 12.5%  |



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