

2016 FILIUS CHARDONNAY



Generous, yet refined

'Son of' the Vasse Felix Chardonnay and made with the same winemaking philosophy. It has a generous, yet refined fruit profile, from parcels grown in each of the Vasse Felix Vineyards. Made since 1990.

Cameron Douglas MS (New Zealand)

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94 points

Ripe and fruit centred bouquet with noticeable new oak showing juicy, nutty vanilla tones, light salty tone and Burgundian-like mineral tones; overall complex. On the palate - firm, fruity, fleshy and dry; flavours of citrus then stone fruit with grapefruit and lemon tones then peach and apple; medium+ (ish) acidity accentuated with new oak and fine tannins; a youthful wine overall. The combination of flavours and textures show a balanced and well made example that will stand the test of time if cellared well. Lengthy finish. Drink now and through 2028. (2015)

Country Life

Fresh

Is a beautiful greenish-gold colour and has fresh acidity and an almost Puligny-Montrachetesque refinement. (2015)

House and Garden - UK

Vibrancy and purity

I love a good Chardonnay - anything from taut, streamlined, mineral Chablis to fuller, richer, barrel-aged styles. But it has to be good. I draw the line at cheap, mass-produced Chardonnays that taste of tropical fruit, lemon-sherbet sweets and oak chips. I'm glad to have got that of my chest. Now to this week's wine: a Chardonnay that edges discreetly towards the fuller style, but balances its rich lemony fruit, toasted wheat and cashew-nut flavours with a lingering vibrancy and purity. It comes from the Margaret River region south of Perth in Western Australia and from the first estate to be established there, Vasse Felix back in 1967. Happy 50th birthday. Drink it any time over the next three years with chicken, pork, fish cakes or fish pie, or dishes with cheese. (2015)

Toronto Star

Carolyn Evans Hammond

90 Points

Bright, cresting notes of lemon -- lemon squirt, lemon zest, lemon oil -- as well as ginger and bitter lime characterize this taut, tart drop. It's a stark reminder Australia makes so much more than

fruit-drenched, sunshine-in-a-glass styles of wine when the grapes hail from cooler regions -- such as Adelaide Hills, Tasmania and the chillier, maritime microclimates in Margaret River. Serve this exciting little number with teriyaki salmon and rice.

The Globe and Mail
BEPPI CROSARIOL

90 points

All over southern Australia these days winemakers are clamouring to find elevated sites to capture more vibrant flavours than has been the norm in that country. They should all move to Margaret River in the remote west, where coolness is easy to come by. Here's an impressive example from a terrific producer, registering just 12.5- per-cent alcohol (how un-Australian!). It's got lemon-lime zestiness, apple and, remarkably for a ripe chardonnay, a suggestion of herbs.

JamesSuckling.com
James Suckling

91 points

A very fresh and clean white with sliced apple, lemon and peach. Medium to full body, bright acidity. Cream and hints of vanilla. Vivid finish. Screw cap. Drink now.

Halliday Wine Companion
James Halliday

90 Points

2015 Vintage

The Times UK
Jane MacQuitty

"On song"

On song, elegant, citrus, yellow apple and pineapple-scented charmer.

Winsor's Choice Blog
Winsor Dobbin

Hard to beat

Filius (son of in Latin) may be the entry-level chardonnay in the impressive Vasse Felix line-up but for immediate drinking pleasure, it is hard to beat. The first winery to be planted in Margaret River remains a national treasure with winemaker Virginia Willcock very much at the top of her game. This has vibrant but elegant fruit characters (think citrus and finger limes), and tight acid backbone. There is a certain willfulness here thanks to nine months of maturation in older oak and battonage treatment. The more expensive estate chardonnay and the flagship Heytesbury also shine from this vintage, but this is the one to enjoy right. \$28.

Wine Spectator

91 points

Vibrant dried pineapple, toast and lemon curd flavors are expressive and detailed, showing off notes of fresh ginger, lemon verbena and white pepper. Transparent and juicy on the finish. Drink now through 2023.

The West Australian Wine Guide 2018

Ray Jordan

92 points

A lighter and highly fragrant chardonnay that is really Vasse Felix's might good entry level. Its stylistically different with less winemaking, but the fruit intensity is good with lemony grapefruit characters and a subtle use of oak to add some spice to the finish.
