



Kooyong Farrago Chardonnay 2013

Vineyard

The Kooyong vineyard is located on the Mornington Peninsula at Tuerong, on Miocene sedimentary soils. Our wines are made from domain grown, handpicked grapes and aim to manifest terroir: the integration of our geology and soils with the macroclimate of our region, the mesoclimates of the various sites within our vineyard and the weather of the annual grape growing season. Our cultural operations in the vineyard and practices in the winery endeavour to articulate these unique characteristics diligently, respectfully and without artifice.

Vintage

The 2012 winter saw a return to cold and wet conditions with the wettest June in 20 years. Soils were at water holding capacity delaying budburst 10 days. Vine growth was balanced and flowering ensued well, delivering good crop levels. Despite sporadic rain, the summer was mainly dry with vigour kept in check and disease pressure low. Our continuing application of composts, organic teas and other organic practices have advanced the health and resilience of our vines. Vintage commenced at the beginning of March presenting excellent fruit. A period of very warm days and nights then rapidly ripened the remaining fruit causing vintage to be the most compact we have experienced requiring great efforts from both viticultural and winemaking teams.

Tasting Notes

Tasted May 2015

The smallest of all our vineyard blocks (planted 1998), the Farrago wine is sourced from just 1.02 ha of a 2.76 ha gently sloping Chardonnay block. The mottled appearance of the clay soil is caused by a high percentage of ironstone pebbles, much like the Ferrous vineyard. This siliceous influence helps infuse the resulting wines with linearity and minerality. The grapes were gently whole-bunch pressed directly into all-used French oak barriques, where fermentation took place without inoculation. After fermentation the wine was aged on lees (without battonage) for 12 months, with the only racking occurring directly prior to bottling. The wine was bottled without fining and with minimal filtration.

The 2013 Farrago continues the exciting expression of this vineyard, with the nose offering fresh and complex notes of flint, pebble and citrus zest. The precise and focused palate shows youthful austerity, with an exotic mix of star fruit, lime and wet stone. The wine climaxes into a long and powerful chalk-laden finish. Will reward time in the cellar.

13.5% alc.