



Wolf Blass

2001 White Label Chardonnay

The Wolf Blass White Label wines came about from a desire to create iconic aged white wines which will stand along the Wolf Blass Grey Label. These wines are evolved, aged white wines with an extra stamp of style and a structure that guarantees longevity. Wolf Blass Chief Winemaker Chris Hatcher said that, "The winemaking team had the skills and the access to high quality fruit, but before Wolf Blass White Label, they hadn't had the vehicle to develop a label that represented an aged white wine." The team experimented with vineyard and fruit selection and different winemaking techniques, creating two blends of each wine before one was chosen for the White Label range. The growing success of the Wolf Blass White Label has been driven by three key factors: the quality of the vineyards used; the fermentation techniques; and the balance of the wine. Though not entirely new to the Wolf Blass team, the techniques used to develop the Wolf Blass White Label had a very different focus. Traditionally Wolf Blass Winemakers seek to produce young, fresh commercial white wines, whereas with the White Label wines the team was, "able to use the same techniques and experiment to achieve a very different end result," says Chris Hatcher.

VITICULTURE

Adelaide Hills The fruit was sourced from selected vineyards in the Adelaide Hills. In 2001, the early season was excellent, with good growth, and flowering was successful for all varieties. Vine development in the Hills is later than in the warmer, lower altitude areas and the January heat affected the vines less. Also, the March rains arrived at a less critical time. Chardonnay was a stand out variety and the best Chardonnay wines are very good indeed, with great flavour and elegance.

WINEMAKING

The individual vineyard parcels were crushed, destemmed and barrel fermented on solids. The wine was then aged for eight months in oak.

SUGGESTED FOOD

Serve with smoked salmon tagliatelle, vegetable tarts or seafood pizza.

CELLARING

The 2001 Wolf Blass White Label Chardonnay is drinking beautifully now, but will reward a further three to five years of careful cellaring.



WOLF BLASS · AUSTRALIAN WINE AT ITS PEAK

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