

SANDPIPER CHARDONNAY

The Sandpiper range is named after the migratory bird which visits the Thorn-Clarke vineyards annually from the northern hemisphere - something of a reminder of the tenacity and commitment which is required for long term viticulture.



VINTAGE	2016	REGION	Eden Valley
HARVESTED	February 2016	BOTTLED	August 2016
ALCOHOL	12.5%	VINEYARD	Mount Crawford

WINEMAKERS NOTE

Pale straw in colour. Grapefruit and lemon zest on the nose with green apple notes. The palate shows citrus and hints of tropical fruit. Subtle oak adds complexity and creamy notes to the palate.

VINTAGE

A warm dry spring led to into similarly dry conditions in December and January. The warm weather brought harvest on in the first week of February. A couple of good rain events led to milder conditions slowed down the ripening and allowed the fruit to develop well. Whites from 2016 show good flavour and balance.

WINEMAKING

Harvest was carried out at night. The fruit was pressed (using an airbag press). After settling the juice was warmed and inoculated with a neutral yeast selected for its ability to respect the purity of the fruit. After fermentation the yeast lees were stirred for 6 weeks (battonage). Post fermentation the wine was stabilized, minimally fined, filtered then bottled.

