



Dr. Edge

2021

CHARDONNAY

Tasmania - Australia



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 100% Chardonnay

Vineyard: Meadowbank (Derwent Valley) and a single site in the Tamar Valley

Vine Age: 35-years-old

Soil Type: Loose sand & sandstone overlying dark brown coffee rock (sand cemented by iron oxides and organic matter)

Viticulture: Sustainable - practicing organic

Fermentation: Native — old French oak barriques (whole-bunch pressed)

Skin Contact: Fermented and aged with one in every 4 barriques containing 10% whole clusters

Aging: 9 months on lees in old French oak barriques

Alcohol: 12.5%

Residual Sugar: 3 g/L

pH: 3.2

Total Acidity: 7.8 g/L

Total SO₂: 40 ppm

Total Production: 150 cases

UPC: None

Reviews

The Wine Front | 96 points

Wine Enthusiast | 94 points

About

The 2021 'Tasmania' Chardonnay from Dr. Edge (aka Peter Dredge) is sourced from two growers, one in the Derwent Valley in the south of the island, and the other in the Tamar Valley in the north. Both blocks were planted in 1987 and farmed organically, though without certification. Like with all of the Dr. Edge wines, Peter likes to focus on blends of sites to really encapsulate the entirety of the vintage across Tasmania. Plus, this way, he gets to play with the percentages of each block to bring out the elements he desires, which are consistently drive, energy, and texture. The idea behind this Chardonnay was to make something that is by no means an orange wine, but one that sees a little bit of whole clusters during fermentation and aging in order to bring structure and length. Peter does this because he doesn't want to rely too heavily on tannin and structure from oak; he prefers to let the grapes and stems themselves do that work.

The grapes were hand picked then whole-bunch pressed straight to old French oak barriques. Every four barrels, about 10% whole clusters were left un-pressed to soak with the juice. Those clusters stayed there through spontaneous fermentation and the nine months of aging on the lees. It was bottled unfiltered and with a gentle cross-flow filtration, and just a 40 ppm sulfur addition.

Tasting Notes

This textured wine has lemon-like acidity and powerful energy. It shows a savory minerality that swirls together on the palate with flavors of white peach, honey, almonds, and green apple.