## Dawson James,

# **Tasmania Chardonnay 2020**

## Tasmania, Australia





Grape Varieties	100% Chardonnay
Winemaker	Tim James & Peter Dawson
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	12.5%
Acidity	8.4g/L
Wine pH	3.23
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Organic, Vegan

#### **PRODUCER**

When Peter Dawson and Tim James met in 1976 while working at Hardy & Sons, it set in motion a lifelong friendship culminating in the founding of Dawson James, a critically acclaimed Tasmanian winery focused on cool-climate expressions of Australian Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. This duo collectively has 80 vintages worth of experience, and it is therefore unsurprising that Dawson James has fast become one of Tasmania's leading wineries for quality and innovation. The wines are made from a single vineyard around 60 kilometres northwest of Hobart. Soils at the 'Meadowbank Vineyard' include sandy loams, structured clays and sandstone, which naturally limit vine vigour, resulting in a perfect balance between fruit intensity and acidity.

#### **VINEYARDS**

The Meadowbank Vineyard was planted in the Derwent Valley in southern Tasmania in 1989. The site lies 70 metres above sea level and the north-easterly aspect gives it optimal sunlight exposure for grape ripening. The soil is a combination of brown sandy loams over structured clays and sandstone rock. It has a devigorating nature, helping the balanced growth and structure of the vines. Vines are trellised to single cordon and managed to one bunch per shoot, and yields are kept at less than six tonnes per hectare.

#### VINTAGE

2020 was a cooler season than average, with a lot of challenging wind throughout the vintage. Harvest conditions were favourable and the final fruit was of very high quality. Chardonnay grapes were picked on 1st April.

### **VINIFICATION**

Whole bunches were pressed in a pneumatic press, yielding a juice with low grape solids. The juice was briefly settled before being transferred into 228 litre French oak barriques. The juice went into 40% new oak barrels, and the rest into second and third use barrels. After natural fermentation the wine went through a partial malolactic fermentation, which was stopped when the desired acid balance was achieved.

# **TASTING NOTES**

The wine has aromas of fresh citrus florals, pastry, and toast on the nose. Layers of fresh nectarine and lemon pith flavours are abundant on the palate, balanced by savoury oak notes and a creamy mouthfeel. Long and intense, this wine is driven by lively natural acidity and has a long, mouth-watering finish.

### **AWARDS**

Decanter World Wine Awards 2024, Platinum Decanter World Wine Awards 2023, Platinum International Wine Challenge 2023, Silver