



# DOMAIN ROAD *vineyard*

## Defiance Chardonnay 2018

Domain Road Vineyard is a small producer of premium wines in Bannockburn, Central Otago, New Zealand. Two vineyards, one on Domain Road and the other on Felton Road are hand tended by a small team under the leadership of Fiona Johnman. Bannockburn's hot summers, followed by cool dry autumns allow the grapes to reach optimum maturity prior to harvest.

Our vineyards embrace the past, making the most of the soils and unique clays left exposed by miners searching for gold as well as the areas passed over and left untouched. Our Chardonnay grows in three blocks on our Defiance vineyard chosen for the quality of soils and underlying gravels. The clones we chose (809, 1066 and 548) are the three great clones used by the French Grand Crus of Corton-Charlemagne - considered to represent some of the finest white burgundies. These three clones are designed for blending, with 548 and 1066 producing full bodied wines with complex aromas, the addition of 5 - 10% of 809 provides muscat aromas and a fine well balanced structure.

## The Wine

The grapes were hand harvested on 15th March from our Defiance vineyard. All the grapes were whole bunch pressed to tank before being transferred to French oak barriques for barrel fermentation. Aged in the oak barriques for 10 months (32% new oak) the wine underwent malolactic fermentation and was regularly lees stirred, with 50% of the wine completing malo-lactic fermentation.

Our Chardonnay is dry in style, and pale straw with clear hues in colour. The nose has fragrant aromas of apple blossom, honeysuckle, pear, apricot, citrus and vanilla. Rich and mouthfilling the palate is dry with juicy stonefruit, ripe pears, lemon zest, brioche and biscotti. A complex wine with balanced acidity, appealing minerality and a long finish.

Variety	100% Chardonnay
Appellation	Central Otago
Sub Region	Felton Road, Bannockburn
Vineyards	Defiance
Clones	1066, 548, 809
pH	3.51
TA	5.07g/L
Harvested	15th March 2018
Residual Sugar	Nil
Alcohol	14.0%

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