



Late Harvest Viognier 2012

Hubert de Castella's passion for the Yarra Valley saw him establish St Huberts in 1862. By the late 1800s it had grown to be the largest estate in the area. The wines enjoyed immediate and on-going success at wine shows both domestically and abroad. The onset of the Great Depression, the increasing popularity of fortified wine and the emerging profitability of dairy farming saw the vineyard revert to grazing in the 1920s. It wasn't until the 1960s that the Yarra Valley again rose to prominence as a wine region and St Huberts was once again one of the pioneers.

This is the first vintage of a St Huberts Late Harvest Viognier. The fruit for this wine was sourced from John Denton's vineyard near Yarra Glen in the Yarra Valley. The grapes were handpicked as ripe as we could practically get them - in a man vs. bird struggle! After crushing, overnight maceration and pressing, the juice was fermented in stainless steel and arrested a little over half way through resulting in a luscious sweet wine.

Winemaker Comments Greg Jarratt

Vineyard Region

Yarra Valley

Vintage Conditions

2012 was a terrific vintage in the Yarra. Spring rain was above average, followed by a relatively dry summer. By degree days, it was one of the warmest vintages in the last decade - with very few extremely hot days. Yields were moderate to low.

Technical Analysis

Harvest Date 11/4/12

pH 3.59

Acidity 7.2g/L

Alcohol 9%

Residual Sugar 147g/L

Bottling Date 20/9/12

Peak Drinking Ideal as an aperitif or dessert wine, drink in the next 2-3 years.

Grape Variety

Viognier

Maturation

Fermented and matured for three months in stainless steel.

Colour

Pale/Medium straw with pale straw hues.

Nose

Sweet smells of honey comb, bees wax, orange marmalade and frangipani overlay classic Viognier notes of apricot jam, with a hint of spice.

Palate

The palate is rich, sweet and luscious with balanced acidity and phenolics. Flavours of stewed apricot, cumquats and honey are evident, and the wine culminates with a long marmalade/white flower finish.