

2019 Maté's Vineyard Chardonnay



Maté's Vineyard

In 1990, Maté Brajkovich reworked the land at Kumeu River and planted a new vineyard of Chardonnay on the site of the family's original vineyard, purchased in 1944. The first harvest from these new vines was in March 1993, the year following Maté's death. The vineyard was named Maté's Vineyard in his honor, and the resulting single-vineyard wine was first released in November 1994 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Brajkovich family's arrival in Kumeu.

<i>Vineyard Region:</i>	Kumeu, Auckland
<i>Cultivation:</i>	Sustainable
<i>Size:</i>	2.49 hectares (6 acres)
<i>Vine Age:</i>	Planted 1990
<i>Clones:</i>	Mendoza
<i>Soil:</i>	Clay loam
<i>Elevation:</i>	45 meters (147 feet)
<i>Exposure:</i>	North facing
<i>Training:</i>	Lyre
<i>Yields:</i>	4.0 tons/acre
<i>Brix:</i>	22.5°

Technical Information

<i>Varietal Composition:</i>	100% Chardonnay
<i>Vinification:</i>	Hand harvested Whole-bunch pressed Indigenous-yeast fermentation French oak barrels, 30% new oak 100% barrel fermentation 100% malolactic fermentation 11 months maturation in barrel

Tasting Notes

The 2019 vintage was exceptional and produced sensational Chardonnay across all our vineyards. Maté's Vineyard is always the last site we pick each year. In 2019 the grapes certainly had the distinctive Mendoza millerandage, giving many small berries along with the normal sized ones, and as a result a wonderfully concentrated palate texture and fruit richness. Although still somewhat shy on the nose coming out of the barrel, with bottle age the full palette of complex aromas and bouquet of this wonderful wine will be gradually and seductively revealed.