

## ‘LIMEWORKS’ 2015 SELECT VINEYARDS HAWKES BAY CHARDONNAY

Sustainable Wine NZ Registration Number: SWB27CA5EE93

### Winemakers Notes

Vintage 2015 was both difficult and tremendous for our Limeworks Chardonnay block near Havelock North. It was difficult because a severe spring frost wiped out about 75% of fruit in the block, but tremendous because the fruit that remained was in magnificent condition come harvesting on 4 April 2015. The fruit was trucked to Auckland and the juice sent off to American oak for fermentation, malolactic fermentation and aging. This year we used an uncommonly high percentage of new oak. Normally we will use about 30% new oak, but this year the fruit had the concentration to handle 50% new barrels. The wine spent nine months in oak before assemblage on 19 January 2016. The wine was bottled on 24 and 25 February 2016.

**Analysis;**    **Alc** 13.5%    **Acid** 7.0g/L    **Res Sugar** 2.4g/L    **pH** 3.41

### Tasting Notes

**Colour:**            This vineyard always has a bit of colour: Pale in the glass at bottling, but will slowly deepen with time.  
**Bouquet:**          Profound! A melange of vanilla, cream, sweet lemon, grapefruit, hazelnut, and spicy oak.  
**Palate:**             Powerful! This is a big, rich Chardonnay. It has weight, sweet fruit, beautiful texture and length.

### Cellaring

Already approachable, but will cellar happily into the medium term in a cool environment.

### Food Matches

The oak ageing makes this wine an excellent match with full flavoured rich dishes, in particular poultry, pork, salmon and crayfish.

### Suggested Wine List Description

A stylish Chardonnay, mouth-filling and smooth. Not heavy, but with great depth of flavour, it shows maturity balancing sweet citrus and grapefruit aromas with delicate oak and nut overtones. Everything lingers neatly on the finish.

### Independent Reviewer's Comment

"Generous and upfront with fragrant aromatics and full-bodied, lemony, creamy, nutty, cedary oak flavours and a spicy, savoury wine biscuit complexity."

### Awards

**Elite Gold Medal** – Air NZ Wine Awards 2016

**Gold Medal** – New Zealand International Wine Show 2016