CRAGGY RANGE

2022 Les Beaux Cailloux

GIMBLETT GRAVELS, HAWKE'S BAY

Sourced from a single block, Les Beaux Cailloux (the beautiful pebbles) is our most pure, complex and refined Chardonnay. We look for restraint in our winemaking and believe this Chardonnay reflects our style more than the region around us. The minerality and savouriness of this wine and its energy are entirely unique, attributed to the concentration of stones and the single-block nature of our philosophy and handling.

TASTING NOTE

Pale straw colour. An intense and fragrant nose of lemon curd and zest, roasted hazelnut, brioche, and white blossoms. It flows across the palate with ease, yet there's a salinity and vivacity woven in keeping freshness and definition. A plethora of savoury and citrus flavours is perfectly in balance. It speaks volumes to the distinct house style capturing both site and vintage.

VINTAGE & WINEMAKING

A hot start to the season drove early ripening, with Chardonnay harvested in pristine condition before February rainfall. Clones 15 and 95 delivered exceptional concentration, purity, and finely balanced acidity. Fruit is harvested and sorted by hand before 100% whole-bunch pressing into French oak barrique and puncheon for indigenous fermentation. Aged for 12 months in French oak, incuding 33% new barrels, then filtered but not fined before bottling in July 2023.



2022	5 Stars 97 Points 95 Points	Michael Cooper Bob Campbell MW James Suckling
2021	97 Points 96 Points 17.5 Points	Bob Campbell MW Erin Larkin – Wine Advocate Jancis Robinson MW
2020	96 Points 96 Points 96 Points 95 Points	Huon Hooke James Suckling Jane Skilton MW Rebecca Gibb MW