

C R A G G Y R A N G E

2025 Chardonnay

GIMBLETT GRAVELS, HAWKE'S BAY

This vineyard is situated in the heart of the famous Gimblett Gravels Winegrowing District, with the Chardonnay vines planted on a selection of stony and loamy soils throughout the vineyard. Each parcel contains various clonal selections, contributing a unique character to the finished wine. Typically, some of the first vines to be picked in the region each year, the wine is crafted using classic Burgundian winemaking techniques with a focus on showcasing the elegance and purity of Chardonnay.

TASTING NOTE

The 2025 Chardonnay shows fresh acidity and a mineral backbone as true hallmarks of the vintage. This characteristic minerality is layered with lemon peel, chamomile and a hint of mandarin. Extended lees ageing lends richness, bringing notes of sweet-meal biscuit and creamy cashew nut, while subtle oak ties it all together. The result is a Chardonnay of freshness and richness, with a fine textural finish and a concentration of flavour that lingers on the palate.

VINTAGE & WINEMAKING

A warm, dry spring encouraged healthy early development, followed by a cool, mild summer that preserved excellent acidity, delicate aromas and flavours. 100% hand-harvested, with the majority whole-bunch pressed and a small portion crushed prior to pressing to enhance texture. Juice was settled overnight before fermentation in French oak puncheons and barriques, with a mix of indigenous and inoculated yeasts. The wine matured on full lees until blending in the new year, before spending a further three months in tank prior to bottling in May 2026. A small portion was matured in sandstone amphora to preserve freshness and add texture. No fining was required, with light filtration ensuring purity in the final wine.

ALCOHOL	13.5%
RESIDUAL SUGAR	<1g/L
PH	3.25
ACIDITY	6.54 g/l



2024	95 Points Gold 93 Points 93 Points 92 Points 92 Points	Decanter World Wine Awards Stephen Wong Ken Gargett Mike Bennie Shanteh Wale
2023	94 Points 93 Points	Dave Brookes Gary Walsh
2022	94 Points 93 Points	Bob Campbell MW James Suckling
2021	94 Points 94 Points 91 Points	James Suckling Bob Campbell MW Decanter