

Oak Valley Beneath the Clouds Chardonnay 2016

High up along the foothills of the Groenlandberg in the cool climate of Elgin, the Summer South East wind brings in a cooling blanket of cloud that slows the ripening and brings incredible character to this wine

variety : Chardonnay | 100% Chardonnay

winery : Oak Valley

winemaker : Adam Mason

wine of origin : Elgin

analysis : alc : 13.81 % vol rs : 3.0 g/l pH : 3.36 ta : 6.0 g/l

type : White **style :** Dry **body :** Full

pack : Bottle **size :** 750ml **closure :** Screwcap

The South-Easter, known locally as the Cape Doctor, is our prevailing wind in summer. In Elgin, the Cape Doctor blows cold sea air over the vineyards and blankets the valley under cloud. These clouds lower our daytime temperatures and slow the ripening of our chardonnay grapes, leading to better flavour development. Here in lies the magic of Beneath the Clouds.

in the vineyard : The Cape Doctor that brings the cloud cover during the ripening period allows the wine to fully ripen in the vineyard while still retaining a beautiful natural acidity. Wild yeast fermentation in older French Oak Barriques results in a wine that has beautiful structure and complexity.

about the harvest: This Chardonnay expresses generous lemon-citrus aromas, almonds, oyster shell and flint. This fresh lemon-citrus follows on the palate with ruby grapefruit as the dominant character. Lovely full mid-palate with the citrus fruits supported by sweet zesty spice. This will please those who enjoy wooded, but fresher-styled Chardonnays.

