



Patrick Sullivan 2021 Baw Baw Shire Chardonnay

Winemaker: Patrick Sullivan

Grape(s): Chardonnay

GI: Gippsland

Site(s): Bull Swamp Vineyard, Baw Baw Shire

Vintage notes: An exemplary and classic vintage in Gippsland: cool and moderately wet conditions (at the right times) led to wines of impressive concentration as well as vibrant acidity.

Vineyard notes: All vineyards are farmed biodynamically, in the process of certification. The Bullswamp vineyard was planted in 1982 by the Farrington family at the very edge of the Warragul township at 100m elevation. The vines for the Baw Baw Shire bottling are the younger ones in the Bullswamp vineyard, about 25 years old; all are cane pruned, no tillage. Completely dry-grown on volcanic soils. This section of the vineyard faces south, with moderate airflow and exposure.

Winemaking: Rigorous sorting of grapes follows harvest. Grapes are whole-cluster pressed to barrique (30% new). Fermentation takes place over 3 weeks with full malolactic taking place immediately post primary fermentation. Lees stirring occurred twice towards the end of primary fermentation, then once more at the completion of malolactic fermentation. Only add is a small amount of sulphur.

Closure: DIAM 5 Origine **ABV:** 13%

LEGEND tasting notes: A nuanced and subtle chardonnay that presents place more than any particular winemaking slant. The nose is an understated mélange of toasted wattleseed, yellow apple, and lemon aspen (a spongy and floral native citrus). Delicate and intricately-knit palate, persistent and balanced acid, with pleasantly plump fruit weight.

Label design: Label art by Helsinki-based illustrator Eero Lampinan. According to Patrick, “the scope was a garden of eden on volcanics. Symbols of the green place in which we live and the rich volcanic soils.”

Production size: 180 dozen

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