

# STARGAZER

## riesling 2023



**LEGEND**  
AUSTRALIAN WINE IMPORTS

**Winemaker:** Samantha Connew

**Grape(s):** Riesling    **GI:** Tasmania

**Site(s):** Single vineyard in Coal River Valley

**Vintage notes:** The ongoing La Nina conditions of the last few years delivered some solid rainfall during the winter months, which continued through spring. Budburst was delayed until late September, and the wet conditions slowed things down considerably with flowering particularly prolonged, stretching through December. Canopy growth was vigorous when it started to warm up and meant lots of hours shoot thinning and leaf plucking to open up the canopy and reduce disease pressure. The start of the new year saw things fine up considerably; and January and February were dry and warm, continuing through autumn until a cold snap at Easter.

**Vineyard notes:** This is the eighth Stargazer riesling to come from this unnamed single vineyard site, located in the Tea Tree subregion of the Coal River Valley, twenty minutes northeast of Hobart. Planted in 2004 to a density of 5000 vines/hectare, with soils of dark clay on Jurassic dolerite. The vines are cane-pruned and trained to a VSP canopy. In process of transitioning to organic viticulture.

**Winemaking:** Hard-harvested in two picks in mid April at 12.1° and 12.2° baumé. Both picks were destemmed and left in contact with skins for about eight hours prior to gentle pressing. 100% wild-fermented in stainless steel over six weeks. The ferments were arrested in June and left on lees for close to six weeks before blending, with battonage weekly. 2.99 pH, 9.1 g/L TA, 8.6 g/L residual sugar.

**Closure:** Stelvin    **ABV:** 12%

**LEGEND tasting notes:** Very pale yellow in color with green hints, the nose has notes of citrus, bergamot, and the trademark Tea Tree apple-skin character. Pink grapefruit and desert lime spiciness, with a hint of salty green native Kakadu plum. The acid provides structure, drive, and backbone to the palate, while the tangy exit is balanced with a small touch of residual sugar and stony fleshiness.

**Label design:** Stargazer's varietal series depicts historic buildings or natural features of Tasmania. The 2020 shows Shot Tower on Brown's River Road, built in 1870. Based on a postcard from the Historic Trust of Tasmania.

**Production size:** 800 dozen