

# Luna

E S T A T E

MARTINBOROUGH | NEW ZEALAND



## 2018 Eclipse Chardonnay

### Vintage and vine

Ample winter and early spring rains made parts of the vineyard inaccessible for machinery in the early part of the growing season. Conditions changed to extreme dry with a mini drought and well above average temperatures into late October and November. Good even budburst followed by an excellent fruit set, combined with rapid shoot growth promising an excellent crop. Alas, the weather turned again! High and frequent rainfall combined with high temperatures created a nightmare scenario in the vineyard; Everything grew like crazy, and disease pressure was very high! The team worked like mad and made the best of a difficult season. Harvest in the end was two – three weeks ahead of normal. For us at least, we harvested some fantastic flavours for the most part, with some blocks looking the best I have ever seen them!

### Winery

Hand harvested from Mature vines growing on our Eclipse Vineyard. Whole bunch pressed followed by a brief settling period in tank. The juice is sent to barrel still very cloudy or 'dirty' as we like to say in the trade. This means there is still lots of phenolics and other solid particles remaining in the juice which would otherwise be left behind if the juice was settled for longer at a low temperature. I favour this technique for Chardonnay destined for barrel fermentation and long maturation in barrel and tank, plus a 'richer' juice also aids natural yeast, providing a more nutrient rich environment. Fermentation was spontaneous and slow. Maturation in barrel lasted 11 months; no battonage employed, followed by an additional 5 months in tank on full lees. Bottled with minimal fining and minimal filtration. No animal products used.

pH 3.35, T/A 6.0, RS <1.0 g/L, Alc 13%

### Tasting Note

Youthful, clear, bright pale gold colour

Summer orchard fruit aromas with white blossom and lemon brûlée

. There is a sea spray edge lending a sense of freshness and purity. Malty/ baked biscuit smelling oak adds a warming bass note to this intriguing and inviting show



ZN Agri Limited T/A Luna Estate

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Rich linear delivery. A seamless quality spans the length and breadth of the palate. Tight, nervy lemon sherbet like acidity refreshes the wine and keeps the flavour rolling. An elegant, taught, match fit Chardonnay that is drinking well now but clearly offers more and better in the years to come. Cellar with confidence.



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