

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES

Virtuoso Chardonnay
2021

PEGASUS BAY
FINE WAIPARA WINE



97 POINTS - BEST PRODUCER

Susie & Peter | NZ Wine Of The Year 2026

February 2026

96 POINTS

James Suckling | jamessuckling.com

December 2024

Excellent tightness yet deep and dense with sliced cooked apples and citrus as well as some vanilla, cream and hints of salt. Subtle chalky texture. Long and flavourful, this is tangy with hints of caramel at the end. Give it three or four years, but it's already beautiful.

5 STARS

Michael Cooper | michaelcooperwines.com

July 2025

Blended from the 'best barrels', this wine is estate-grown and hand-harvested from vines over 30 years old at Waipara, in North Canterbury. Fermented with indigenous yeasts, it is matured on its yeast lees for 10 months to a year in French oak puncheons, and bottle-aged prior to its release. Still unfolding, the 2021 vintage is pale gold, with an invitingly fragrant, complex bouquet. Weighty and vigorous, it has deep, vibrant, peachy, citrusy flavours, finely integrated oak, balanced acidity, and a very harmonious, lingering finish. Full of youthful drive.

19 POINTS

Joelle Thomson | joellethomson.com

June 2025

Virtuoso is the long awaited outstanding queen of white wines made at Pegasus Bay; the longest aged Chardonnay made at the winery which, in this case, also comes from an outstanding vintage. This full bodied, savoury, complex and full bodied Chardonnay was made from hand picked grapes which were harvested progressively and fermented with the grape's natural yeasts in French oak puncheons, 40% of which were new. This translates into a beautifully integrated, full bodied Chardonnay with creamy textural qualities and aromas of fresh goat's cheese, almonds, cedar and spice. A great wine now but the 2021 Virtuoso will come into its own with ageing in bottle and can evolve favourably for at least five to six years.