



Curly Flat

VINE TO WINE

Time to Release ... Curly Flat 2011 Chardonnay

Nothing good comes easy...

With our 2011 vintage, the above adage transcended from philosophy to reality. There can be as many positives found in a cooler vintage as are found in a 'normal' warmer vintage. In 2011, realising these positives was no mean feat; and our results are a testament to our site, the lyre trellis and our talented team members who vigilantly tended the vines. With aromatics both complex and subtle, powerful fruit presence in graceful alignment with a great acid line, all leading it towards its overall longevity. We put this release in the very top echelon of Chardonnays we've produced and while drinking well now, there is at least a decade ahead of it.



Huon Hooke on our Curly Flat 2011 Chardonnay

"The 2011 chardonnay is a triumph no less. It is a great wine and - the cool, wet conditions of the 2011 "non-summer" can be seen as a positive for chardonnay. Wines made from healthy grapes, harvested earlier than usual and with lower alcohol strength, are often wines of great finesse. The Curly Flat chardonnay is such a wine."

Reviews for Curly Flat 2011 Chardonnay

"Bright, light yellow colour; very subtle restrained aromas, fresh and citrusy, the oak is almost invisible. In the mouth it's precise and fine, long and refreshing. A superb wine with a long future." 97 Points - Gourmet Wine Traveller

"Fairly rich. Very clean and opulent. Savoury. Bright. Lots of fruit underpinning." 17+/20 Jancis Robinson MW

"Smoky, toasty barrel-ferment oak and possibly a little low-level sulfide to sniff. Peach and nectarine, too. Smells rich and ripe, not like a wine from a cold, wet year. Very intense, fine and piercing on the palate. Superb acidity and great line and length." Excellent. Full of potential.

96 Points - Huon Hooke



Our oldest chardonnay vines, planted in 1993. In recent years we've started to see the impact of vine age...



Our Tasting Note - Curly Flat 2011 Chardonnay

Bouquet: A nose that is subtle, yet complex. Fresh cut lime citrus opens the scene with white peach, grapefruit and floral notes following. The oak is in harmony with the fruit, providing a fine thread of spice which weaves elegantly into the more savoury elements of lightly toasted cashews, oyster shell & fresh straw.



Palate: At once lithe and luxurious, refreshing acid chimes throughout the lime, white peach, nectarine fruit wave. Savoury layers from lees contact and balanced oak spice giving further density and dimension. A finely textured raft of silky tannins gracefully carries all elements to a long and lingering finish.

Overall Impression: Our most complete and enticing Chardonnay bottled to date, highlighting the best of what cool climate viticulture can deliver. Restrained, yet powerful. Finessed, yet complex. Ripeness, but not at the expense of the acidity that is essential for long term aging.

Cellaring: We expect this wine will drink well to 2020+.

Curly Flat is "Most Collected Pinot" - Wine Ark

Wine Ark, Australia's largest wine storage provider, has released its list of Australia's Most Collected Wines 2013. **Curly Flat Pinot is the Most Collected Pinot Noir.** We are delighted with this result considering that our first wine was released 12 years ago. On the 2009 List, Curly Flat was second Most Collected Pinot behind Mount Mary.

Not surprisingly, Shiraz is the most popular varietal (23 entries) with Penfolds Grange at #1, Most Collected Wine. Leeuwin Estate Art Series is Most Collected Chardonnay and Lake's Folly is Most Collected Cabernet.

2010 Curly Flat Pinot Noir taking off!

2010 CF Pinot Noir was chosen by Emirates to take to the skies in their International First Class. You don't have to fly first class to get some of the outstanding 2010 Curly Flat Pinot Noir as it is our current release and is available. Drinking well now but still has years laying ahead of it.

"... a mix of spicy/savoury and French oak nuances running through the plum and red cherry fruit of the bouquet; the palate is perfectly balanced, and the 22 months in 30% new French oak barrels were judged to perfection." 95 Points - Halliday Wine Companion

Cutler & Co come to Curly Flat

24 November - \$180 per person

The legendary Andrew McConnell and his team return to Curly Flat for the 7th year. Andrew's restaurants are Cutler & Co., Cumulus, Golden Fields and Moon Under Water. We recommend prompt action in securing your seats as they sell rapidly! Catch the train to Woodend and from there the Curly Flat Express bus brings you to and from Curly Flat. Email orders@curlyflat.com or phone 03 5429 1956 for bookings.



Curly Flat Dinner at Cumulus Up.

16 September - \$180 per person

A Curly Flat wine dinner is to be held at Andrew McConnell's new wine bar, Cumulus Up. which is upstairs from the extremely popular Cumulus Inc. For bookings & enquiries call Cumulus Up. on 03 9650 1445.

Cellar Doors in the City

7 September - Free Wine Tasting

Cumulus Up. is bringing cellar doors from all over Victoria to the heart of Melbourne. Curly Flat wines will be shown along with wines of other Macedon producers, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on 7 September. Food will be available.

Curly Flat dinner at Aria Brisbane

29 August - \$155 per person

A few seats remain for the Curly Flat 3 course dinner at Aria Brisbane, an event listed in our last newsletter. Wines and menu on our website. For bookings call 03 5429 1956.

Chris Shanahan on Williams Crossing Wines

Williams Crossing Chardonnay 2011

"Curly Flat makes some of Australia's most exciting, complex chardonnays. The second label, Williams Crossing, comprises material declassified from the Curly Flat label. But even these "offcuts" have been completely barrel fermented and matured, with all the hands-on winemaking attention of its more expensive cellar mate. That means one of the best value chardonnays on the market. In the cool 2011 vintage it's perhaps a little leaner and tighter than usual with attractive grapefruit and melon varietal flavours woven through the rich barrel-derived texture."

Williams Crossing Pinot Noir 2011

"Williams Crossing, (is a) lower priced expression of the house style. It's lighter bodied and paler coloured ... but that was to be expected in such a cold vintage. Despite its comparative lightness, the 2011 delivers concentrated, definitive pinot flavour with a backbone of firm, fine tannins." www.chrisshanahan.com

Ralph Kyte-Powell on Williams Crossing Pinot

"A cool 2011 presented problems for Victorian winemakers, but this Macedon pinot noir surmounts them. Elegant strawberry, herb and floral aromas show adequate ripeness, and the palate is light, fresh and long with a balanced, dry finish." **Epicure in the Age**

Lyre Trellis - Divided We Stand

In a challenging year like 2011, hard work, determination and even a bit of luck were necessary if you were to achieve quality. Another thing in our favour was the Lyre trellis. The Lyre system divides the canopy into two distinct walls, greatly improving the solar energy interception that drives ripening. Equally important is that this divided canopy also allows for better airflow and UV penetration, significantly reducing disease pressures.



Lyre trellis allows for more sunlight & air movement

The dual function of the Lyre trellis was invaluable in 2011, as it was wet, cool and humid. The Lyre trellis together with the tireless efforts of our dedicated vineyard crew, brought home a very pleasing vintage.

2011 wasn't our first very cool vintage; 2002 was even cooler and 2004 wasn't far behind. Despite cooler conditions, each of these vintages produced exceptional wines. The 2011 is probably the most complete chardonnay we've produced; contributing factors also include increasing vine age and our ever growing experience in the vineyard and winery.

Return of the Chardonnay History Pack

We allocated a small parcel of our museum stocks of 2008 and 2009 Chardonnays to be released with the 2010, to bring back the Curly Flat Chardonnay History Pack.

The 2008 & 2009 Chardonnays are unavailable elsewhere, so the History Pack provides access to wines you may have missed out on or couldn't resist drinking. These wines are barely half way through their respective lives and are now building the added layers that only time in bottle can deliver. So history does repeat, just not for very long!



2010 - 97 Points Huon Hooke Drink to: 2020

2009 - 96 Points James Halliday Drink to: 2015

2008 - 96 Points James Halliday Drink to: 2020

2012 Curly Flat Pinot Gris Shines

"In 2012, Curly Flat cracked the pinot gris code - successfully capturing the variety's pear-like flavour and rich texture, while retaining unusually brisk, fresh acidity"

94 Points - Chris Shanahan

