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Alc  
14%

pH  
3.32

TA  
6.28g/l

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## SEASON SUMMARY

The 2025 growing season got off to a relatively early start, despite what felt like an ideal, cold winter with plenty of frosts and clear, crisp days. Once budburst commenced, Spring was relatively mild, and there were no issues with frosts or major rain events. The flowering period during November and early December was exceptionally warm, resulting in full bunches and a good yield.

However, Summer seemed to pass us by from early January through to mid-February, with an extended run of uncharacteristically overcast days. During this period, we took a lot of steps to reduce the crop load on the vines, to guarantee a high degree of fruit quality and maturity.

Despite this difficult six-week period of low sunshine, the growing season was warmer and drier than average. We received 78% of the normal rainfall and experienced 13% warmer daily temperatures throughout the growing season.

The harvest period was dry and settled, which allowed us to pick at our leisure, ensuring that everything that reached the winery was at its optimum maturity, and showing beautiful balance and complexity.

## KEY VINEYARDS

All Clone 95 from our Barracks Vineyard, located in the Southern Valleys area of Marlborough's Wairau Valley. The high clay content in the soils allows for greater water retention, creating the ideal environment for a rich, concentrated and complex Chardonnay.

## WINEMAKING & BLENDING

The fruit was hand-picked, and fermented in a terracotta amphora. The juice underwent spontaneous (wild) fermentation, and full malolactic conversion, and rested on lees in its vessels for 12 months before bottling with minimal sulphur.

## NOSE

Immediately intriguing on the nose, with notes of florals, greengage plum, a hint of fresh mango and some juicy lemonade citrus.

## PALATE

This is an exuberant wine in the glass, showing a rich complexity and plenty of concentration. There is a core of juicy Braeburn apple, overlaid with notes of honeyed lemon and orchard blossom. The finish is long and mouthwatering, and finishes with a clean sense of rain-washed riverstone minerality.

# CLOUDY BAY

NEW ZEALAND



*Founders' Cellar*

AMPHORA CHARDONNAY  
2025