

2022 Maté's Vineyard Chardonnay



Maté's Vineyard

In 1990, Maté Brajkovich reworked the land at Kumeu River and planted a new vineyard of Chardonnay on the site of the family's original vineyard, purchased in 1944. The first harvest from these new vines was in March 1993, the year following Maté's death. The vineyard was named Maté's Vineyard in his honor, and the resulting single-vineyard wine was first released in November 1994 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Brajkovich family's arrival in Kumeu.

<i>Vineyard Region:</i>	Kumeu, Auckland
<i>Cultivation:</i>	Sustainable
<i>Size:</i>	2.49 hectares (6 acres)
<i>Vine Age:</i>	Planted 1990
<i>Clones:</i>	Mendoza
<i>Soil:</i>	Clay loam
<i>Elevation:</i>	45 meters (147 feet)
<i>Exposure:</i>	North facing
<i>Training:</i>	Lyre

Vintage Notes

The 2022 vintage was excellent due to favorable weather conditions. The winter of 2021 was mild and wet, and the spring growth was lush and rapid. Flowering was ahead of usual, indicating another early harvest. Dry weather in January and February provided ideal conditions for the development of aroma and flavor. The Chardonnay wines, particularly the Single Vineyards, are shining examples of the Kumeu style, highlighting individual personalities.

Technical Information

<i>Varietal Composition:</i>	100% Chardonnay
<i>Vinification:</i>	Hand harvested Whole-bunch pressed Indigenous-yeast fermentation French oak barrels, 30% new oak 100% barrel fermentation 100% malolactic fermentation 11 months maturation in barrel
<i>Alcohol:</i>	13%

Tasting Notes

This release marks the 30th vintage for Maté's Vineyard and continues the amazing run of vintages we have had with this vineyard. The conditions during the 2022 harvest were superb and the fruit from Maté's Vineyard was ripe and pristine. The resulting wine shows the density, concentration and length that we expect and even though it is somewhat shy on the nose, with bottle age the full palette of complex aromas and bouquet of this wonderful wine will shine through.