

Cloudburst Chardonnay 2014

Posted on 10 September 2015.

“Flavour and mystery”. The catch-cry for Cloudburst’s Will Berliner when he speaks of his chardonnay. From an extraordinary, biodynamically farmed, dry grown, close-planted, garden-like vineyard in Margaret River. Flavour and mystery. Let’s leave it at that.

Tightly wound wine. Squeaky perfume that sniffs of peppery spice, nougat, lathed wood, sandalwood and green apples. Squeaky in the palate too – tight, lean, bound up in chewy oak, sloshes of tangy fruit and finished with puckering acidity. Chalkiness in texture, yet the wine swings with saline-feeling minerality. Restraint and power. Very good.

Rated : 94+ Points
Tasted : SEP15
Alcohol : 13.6%
Price : \$200
Closure : Screwcap
Drink : 2015 - 2024

Cloudburst Cabernet Sauvignon 2012

Posted on 22 June 2015.

Tasted briefly from a small quantity leftover in a bottle: beggars can’t be choosers, as they say.

Rich blueberry and ripe blackcurrant, subtle cedar oak, aniseed and floral perfume. Medium bodied, juicy redcurrant flavour and fresh acidity, slick of open weave tannin, long finish. Certainly in an early stage of its evolution. Sophisticated, quietly spoken style.

Rated : 94 Points
Tasted : May-15
Price : \$260
Closure : Screwcap
Drink : 2016 - 2026+



Cloudburst Chardonnay 2013

Posted on 10 September 2015.

I've been lucky enough to visit the extraordinary Cloudburst vineyard site in Margaret River, and those that also have, that I speak to, seem to come away inspired, amazed, delighted. It's a wonderful nook tucked in amongst Australian bush, with kangaroos hopping about, bees buzzing and thatches of wild flowers littering the sparse grasses woven through earth underfoot. It's distinctly Australian, and yet, amongst the ockerness, is the close-planted, wildly verdant, garden-like vineyard plots that are lovingly tended by Cloudburst's utterly charming Will Berliner.

Berliner is softly spoken, measured, funny, and a thinker who speaks of wine and vineyards as a prism to parts of a sparkly universe that rarely are touched on in wine conversation. Beyond facets of the wine itself, there's extraordinary labour in the vineyard – Berliner's happiest of happy places. There's lots to consider.

Restrained aromas here, but serious. Sandalwood, sweet spice, ripe lemons, green apple, sea spray. Radiant. Mouthfeel is wonderful – soft, sighing, satiny and yet spreads with assertive flavour across the palate. Oak is there, but supporting, seasoning the mouthwatering fruit. Young, pliant and very long in flavour. Feels very elegant to drink. It's great wine.

Rated : 94+ Points

Tasted : SEP15

Alcohol : 13.9%

Price : \$200

Closure : Screwcap

Drink : 2015 - 2023