Shaw & Smith

The Lenswood Vineyard Chardonnay offers a delicate and intense profile, showcasing white floral notes, citrus, and a hint of minerality, a wine that highlights the unique terroir of Lenswood.

SHAW + SMITH

Lenswood Chardonnay 2022

Adelaide Hills, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The **Lenswood Vineyard**, located in the **Adelaide Hills** at an altitude of **500 meters**, provides an ideal setting for cool-climate Chardonnay, with east-facing slopes that capture morning sun and promote gradual ripening. Established in **2001**, this vineyard's soil profile includes **loam over clay and shale**, which adds a mineral character to the wines. The 2021 growing season was exceptionally favorable, with abundant winter rains ensuring ample soil moisture, followed by a mild summer that allowed the fruit to ripen slowly, enhancing the depth of flavor and retaining fresh acidity.

The **Bernard 95 and 76 clones** planted here at a density of **4,760 vines per hectare** produce fruit with refined concentration and structure. These conditions are crucial to creating a Chardonnay that embodies the elegance and intensity of the Lenswood site, with complex flavors and a balanced acidity that promises longevity in the bottle.

Winemaking

The winemaking for the 2021 Lenswood Vineyard Chardonnay emphasizes minimal intervention to let the vineyard's unique characteristics shine. The grapes are **gently whole-bunch pressed** to preserve delicacy, and the juice is fermented in **500-liter French oak puncheons**, of which **30% are new**. Full **malolactic fermentation** adds a creamy texture, while **minimal batonnage** preserves the wine's bright acidity and purity of flavor. The wine matures for **10 months in oak**, allowing for the integration of oak with the fruit without overpowering its natural finesse.

This approach results in a wine that combines delicate aromatics with a fine, long palate, showcasing restrained power and structure. The 2021 vintage is an example of Shaw + Smith's dedication to capturing the purity and potential of single-site Adelaide Hills Chardonnay.

Alcohol :12,50 %

Composition: 100% Chardonnay

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Pale lemon straw.
- **Aroma**: Subtle aromas of white flowers and chamomile with a hint of struck match, adding a mineral edge.
- **Palate**: Fine and delicate, with flavors of lemon pith, chamomile, and under-ripe nectarine. A long, focused finish with balanced acidity, hinting at the wine's potential to develop further complexity with age.

Did you know?

The **Lenswood Vineyard** is one of Shaw + Smith's flagship sites, planted specifically to optimize the qualities of Adelaide Hills Chardonnay. The combination of high elevation, east-facing slopes, and specific clones (Bernard 95 and 76) contributes to the vineyard's ability to produce Chardonnay with remarkable finesse and ageing potential.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled sea bass with a lemon herb sauce**: Complements the wine's acidity and minerality, enhancing the subtle floral and citrus notes.
- **Oysters with mignonette sauce**: The wine's freshness and minerality pair well with the briny, delicate flavor of oysters.
- **Risotto with truffle and parmesan**: The creamy texture of the wine and subtle earthiness harmonize with the risotto's rich, umami flavors.
- **Roast chicken with rosemary and thyme**: The wine's citrus and herbal notes balance the savory flavors of the roasted chicken, creating a refined pairing.

96 James Halliday

James Halliday (JH) : 96 Points (2021)

Fermented wild in new and used 500L puncheons; matured for 10 months with the occasional stir. Among the country's varietal exemplars. Transparent and tensile with an additional nuance of flavour, vibrato and mineral cohesion etched into the firmament of complexity each year. White peach, toasted hazelnut, jasmine and nougatine teem long. The oak, nestled beautifully, serves as a framing backdrop rather than the centrepiece. A wine of precision, intense flavours and immense class.

95

Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2021)

The 2021 Lenswood Vineyard Chardonnay is creamy and restrained. It's a wholly classy affair layered with chalky phenolics, salted peach, lashings of white miso green apples, leafy things (bay and sage) and loads of salted crushed nuts. Elegant to the end, and totally streamlined, all elements are in harmony. It's composed of a combination of Bernard clones 95 and 76 and planted at the Lenswood site at an elevation of 500 meters. It's a good-looking site—lush, healthy, gorgeous.

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Lenswood Chardonnay 2022

James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2020)

Such a deep nose, with a wide spectrum of candied citrus, fresh butter and stunning, leesy complexity. Great concentration and restrained richness, with wonderful mineral freshness give this near-perfect balance.

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