

BURNSIDE CHARDONNAY in 2016



WALSH AND SONS

Walsh & Sons is a small outfit producing wines with big personalities.

By using biodynamic methods in our vineyard and natural winemaking techniques we aim to make expressive styles that are fun, youthful and different to the mainstream. Our winemaking relies on the intangible senses of inspiration, intuition and innovation. By using these we seek out a more informed expression of who we are whilst respecting the purity of our natural ingredients.

We have been involved in winemaking at the vineyard and winery level since childhood, having both come from wine and farming families in WA. We have travelled the globe to further our knowledge in places such as France, Spain, Switzerland and the USA. However, our home will always be Margaret River. On a grander scale, we believe Margaret River is still youthful in its wine age.

We also rely upon **technique over technology** so our wines retain their raw personalities. Much is yet to be discovered in style and soil and so we make wine from grapes and label them on **locality** as opposed to the generalized sub regions.

All of our fruit comes from our **family-owned vineyards** in two varying locations, Burnside and Osmington.

We much prefer locality names as we feel they better represent the small communities that exist within Margaret River. We are influenced by **the people in terrior** more so than soil and weather.

Our immediate family, consisting of two sons Roi and Hamish, are what we enjoy the most. Our core wines are mirrored on the personalities of our younger extended family. They sometimes push the boundaries. Please drink our wines with someone special, watch them grow and remember the importance of individuality and self-expression.

- Ryan Walsh & Freya Hohnen ~ Walsh & Sons
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WHAT WE MADE

We have **Chardonnay** because it grows well, has intensity in all elements and we love to drink it. The fact it went in the ground during our childhood builds for us, an association with its existence and a compelling urge to emulate the **Burnside sites'** full potential.

Chardonnay is a chameleon variety that finds balance in any wine style. Making it is always **effortless yet challenging** in the same stroke. Our wines are designed to have edgy bits because we think its these differences that define us. To that end it's not fined or filtered. This wine has a **natural acid backbone** with tremendous fruit intensity and depth of flavour.

WHERE IT CAME FROM

Freya is a Chardophile with Chardonnay from a family property set on the Margaret River itself in a locality called **Burnside**. Planted in 1981 by her father David on a bend in the river (Burnside means – one who lives on the bended side of a river) its unique micaceous black soils are a stones throw from our own home and only 2km from where the **river meets the ocean**. The Chardonnay rows are on a steep northerly aspect with rows running in a north-west, south-east orientation.

HOW WE MADE IT

The Chardonnay was hand picked and pressed straight to barrel. **Natural yeasts** get the job done on all our wines, macro oxygenation preferment ensures these **site yeasts** flourish, and in doing so they enhance the expression of the Burnside persona.

Barrels are **French with 30%** being new from a 300 litre Hogshead and the remainder 5 year old barriques. There is no stirring just topping and tasting on a fortnightly basis. If your good at maths you've probably worked out we didn't make much of this in 2016 so hopefully if you're reading this, you have your hands on a bottle.

Malolactic went through on its own cause in the late autumn and early spring giving a nice natural cover of CO2 during maturation. The wine remains undisturbed with some sulphur added just prior to a January bottling. We blended off the bench from barrel before bottling a week later.

NB. As the wine is unfined and unfiltered; it may present some harmless deposits in the bottle.

WHY WE MADE IT

Walsh and Sons love Chardonnay as much as Chardonnay loves to grow in the Margaret River region. We do our best to only intervene as much so as to give the wine its best chance to develop into its full potential.

This locality of the region is unique and this vineyard truly special in its aspect, and soil. Given its age and individuality we believe that it warrants recognition as one of the great sites in the country.

Please Enjoy with **Family** and friends.

Ryan Walsh ~ Walsh & Sons