

**GIANT STEPS**  
VIGNERONS  
YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



**2007 GIANT STEPS SEXTON VINEYARD CHARDONNAY**

**WINEMAKER:** Phil Sexton  
**REGION:** Yarra Valley, Victoria  
**VARIETALS:** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION:** 10 months in French oak (30% new)  
**ALCOHOL:** 14.1% alc/vol

**VINTAGE:**

The vineyard managed to dodge most hazards of the season including spring frost and drought. Fruit had great balance, retaining acid at flavor ripeness. An increased skin to fruit ratio has imparted a fine chalky tannin that ensures age worthiness and fine structure.

**WINEMAKING:**

Whole bunches are pressed to tank then transferred to barrel after eight hours settling. Small parcels are fermented with indigenous yeast at 20 - 24 degrees Celsius. Lees are stirred weekly, then monthly after May, with a small portion undergoing malolactic fermentation. The wine is then gravity racked to tank for protein and cold stabilization. Minimal fining.

**TASTING NOTES:**

The nose offers floral aromas of citrus blossom and lilies, with toasted sourdough, roasted hazelnuts and nutmeg over freshly cut pears. A silky thick and rounded texture dominate the palate, with haunting flavors of fresh bosc pears, preserved lemon and roasted hazelnuts. Fantastic with pork and fennel sausages.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:**

91 pts Wine & Spirits, 91 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 89 pts Wine Enthusiast

**ABOUT GIANT STEPS:**

Established in 1998, Giant Steps explores the relationship between vineyard site, the Yarra Valley's cool climate, and different grape clones, to finely fingerprint the personality and character of each vineyard. The Sexton Vineyard, at the heart of the property, is a beautiful 75-acre, north facing hillside site located in the foothills of the Warramate ranges, rising from 425 to nearly 700 feet above the valley floor. A relatively cool site, management of this vineyard is intensive with tasks, from pruning to harvesting, all carefully done by hand.



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