

MARINE LAYER

W I N E S



REVIEWS - JAMES SUCKLING

November 2023

Chardonnay

2021 ARIES Chardonnay

Lemon twist, green apple, and faint white flowers followed by delightful flinty and saline minerality. Fresh cream, too. Medium-bodied, mouthwatering bright acidity. Wonderful vibrancy and brightness to it. Aged in 500L puncheon. A blend of fruits from eight vineyards. Drink or hold.

93 points

2021 MARINE LAYER Vineyard Chardonnay

Golden apple, quince and acacia followed by salted butter, pie crust and baking spices. Medium-bodied, refreshing acidity with underlying salty minerality. Aged for 11 months in 35% 500L puncheon. Limited production of only 150 cases. Beautiful harmony and crispness. Drink or hold.

93 points

2021 HEINTZ Vineyard Chardonnay

Lemon blossoms, followed by baking spices, chamomile tea leaf and a touch of beeswax. Medium-bodied, refreshing acidity. Rather complex wine with a zesty and piquant mid-palate and finish. Layers over layers. Very precise, too. Drink or hold.

95 points

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Pinot Noir

2021 LYRA Pinot Noir

Red cherries and wild strawberries followed by orange peel, kola nuts and baking spices. Medium-bodied, bright acidity with fascinating velvety and juicy tannins. Precisely framed and polished. Crunchy and vibrant. 30% whole-cluster. Aged in 25% new French oak barriques. Drink or hold.

94 points

2021 WHISTLER Vineyard Pinot Noir

Black cherries, red plums and lavender followed by red licorice and baking spices with a hint of rocky minerality. Medium-bodied yet round textured with crisp acidity and firm yet finely grained tannins. Wonderful structure and concentration with a brightness to it. Very sound. Annual production of only 120 cases. From the northern most vineyard located in Annapolis. Drink or hold.

94 points

2021 MARINE LAYER Vineyard Pinot Noir

Very sound and concentrated fruits of red currants, strawberries and violets followed by squeezed orange wedge, black ink and kola nuts with baking spices. Cinnamon sticks, too. Medium-bodied, soft and round acidity with finely grained juicy tannins. This is an energetic and very precisely framed wine with wonderful exotic layers. Exceptional ageability to it. Drink or hold.

95 points