



## 2008 VINTAGE

### **HUNTER VALLEY**

The Hunter vintage started off extremely well with good crops and very good flavour. We had an unusually cool ripening season providing higher natural acidity in the grapes ensuring great balance. Unfortunately the good conditions did not last for the reds. The rain set in and we had to leave our 2008 Hunter Shiraz on the vine. Whites came in well with good cropping levels producing elegant varietal wines. Highlights were the elegant classic Semillons and perfumed and spicy Verdelho.

Tonnes picked: 113.2

Dozens: 8490

### **ORANGE**

A near perfect, though be it dry growing season in Orange lead to low crops of intensely flavoured fruit. Ripening conditions were very good with no rain and bright sunny days throughout February and March. Highlights were the very aromatic Sauvignon Blanc and beautifully concentrated Chardonnay with great elegance and balance.

The crops on the reds were tiny and the quality fantastic, great colour and flavour with perfect tannin ripeness.

Tonnes Picked: 98.4

Dozens: 7380

### **WRATTONBULLY**

2008 is one of the earliest vintages on record. We had all of Wratttonbully picked before the end of March. Quite amazing considering we did not start picking till April in 2007 (which was also an early year). Crops were low (1-2 tonnes/acre) wit some of the smallest most concentrated berries yet from the vineyard. These tiny berries gave rise to a lower juice to skin ratio, leading to intense colour and concentration of flavour. The 2008 reds from Wratttonbully are going to be real beauties.

Tonnes Picked: 271.3

Dozens: 20,348

### **COONAWARRA**

Dry hot conditions lead to another early vintage in Coonawarra. We picked all of our Cabernet in the last two days of March. The dry conditions right through 2007 gave rise to tiny crops of very concentrated tiny berries perfect for high quality wine. The 2008 Cabernet is easily the best to date from our Coonawarra vineyard with great depth of flavour and structure whilst maintaining wonderful length and perfect balance.

Tonnes Picked: 45.9

Dozens: 3442