



2009 VINTAGE

HUNTER VALLEY

Our hunter harvest started in earnest with our Chardonnay. Despite the hot conditions, post Christmas, we picked the first grapes on the 28th of January, four days later than last year. 2009 is a fantastic year for Hunter Semillon the conditions being perfect for great fruit intensity whilst maintaining elegance and length of flavour- real keepers! Our first Shiraz came in perfect ripeness and flavour, on the 12th of February. This is going to be one fantastic Hunter Shiraz, with excellent ageing potential.

ORANGE

Despite the rest of the country conditions in Orange were fairly cool this season. The cool ripening season provided elegant and expressive wines that sing of their variety and providence. First picked was the Pinot Noir for our traditional sparkling base. We pick this early at lower sugar levels to retain the crisp acidity we all enjoy in sparkling wines. Quickly following were super lifted Sauvignon Blanc and the elegant and stylish Chardonnay. The Reds from Orange are already showing wonderful colour and great purity of fruit.

WRATTONBULLY

Dry hot conditions lead to an early vintage in Wrattobully. Overall Wrattobully shaped up very well, especially highlighted by the Shiraz Viognier and Cabernet, not to mention our very popular Pinot Gris which is an early ripener and thus the first variety picked this year.

COONAWARRA

The heat wave this year sent the vines in the Limestone coast into overdrive. The major concern was that the grapes would ripen too quickly, leading high alcohol yet under ripe wines. Luckily for all things cooled down (slowing the ripening) and we are able to pick some exceptional Cabernet and Merlot in Coonawarra.