PEPPER TREE

VENUS BLOCK
RESERVE
2009 ORANGE CHARDONNAY

Situated at our high altitude vineyard in Orange, the 'Venus Block' is 800m above sea level, ensuring a long ripening season, perfectly suited to Chardonnay. The result is an intense cool climate Chardonnay with flavours of stone fruits, fig and melon seductively integrated with barrel ferment complexity. A crisp and elegant style of Chardonnay, showing great purity of fruit.

Winemaker Jim Chatto

VINTAGE

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.

VINEYARD

The Orange region of New South Wales is one of Australia's newest premium regions being favoured for its high altitude cool climate. Situated approximately 270 km west of Sydney the topography and soils of the Orange region are dominated by the extinct volcano Mt Canobolas. The present day peak of the mountain is at 1400m and vineyards in the region are planted at elevations as high as 1100m with the lowest elevations in the region being 600m.

Soils in the central part of the region are derived from the basaltic lavas of the old volcano, and primarily consist of deep red to brown free draining clay loams.

APPELLATION/ GI

Orange (New South Wales) 100%

WINEMAKING

Hand picked and gently pressed to preserve delicate fruit aromas and achieve elegance and finesse on the palate.

AWARDS

GOLD

Gold (Class 5) - 2010 NSW Wine Awards

SILVER

Silver (Class 24) - 2011 Cowra Wine Show
Silver (Class 8) - 2010 Dan Murphy's National Wine Show
Silver (Class 13) - 2010 Riverina Wine Show

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:	
BLEND:	Chardonnay (100%)
BOTTLING DATE:	12/2009
PH:	3.18
TA:	6.5 g/l
ALC/VOL:	13.5%
STANDARD DRINKS:	8.0

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