

# The Skybolt Chardonnay — 2017

## ESTATE

The lithe Skybolt is a captivating combination; it's a biplane with an open cockpit and wooden wings, built for aerobatics. Equally captivating the Skybolt Chardonnay is an elegant style with fruit richness, seductive oak and a succulent palate that is rounded and creamy.

## VINEYARDS

The grapes were harvested from our Clone 15, Mendoza and Clone 6 Chardonnay blocks. Cropping levels were kept to a maximum of 11 tonnes/ha. The different clones were harvested at optimum ripeness, determined both by analysis as well as flavour. These clones have been specially selected for their generous fruit character, palate weight and richness.

## WINEMAKING

A combination of free run juice predominantly from our Clone 15 and Mendoza Chardonnay blocks with a small amount of Clone 6. All batches were harvested, pressed and fermented separately in French oak barriques to maximise the clonal characteristics. Selected yeasts and indigenous fermentation add complexity to the wine. Lees stirring in barrel took place for 11 months to increase palate weight and roundness. The wine was racked from barrel using inert gas to make a blend in tank prior to being stabilised and filtered for bottling.

## TASTING NOTE

The wine offers lovely fruit purity together with silky texture and generosity, making it highly enjoyable. This ripe Chardonnay shows peach and tropical aromas coupled with toasted grains, caramel and spice from French oak. Stonefruit and biscuit flavours are balanced by a long citrus finish with hints of toffee and caramel.

A powerful wine that is vibrant in youth but will develop extra layers of complexity and roundness with bottle ageing.

Ideal to enjoy on its own or a perfect complement to seafood, white meats and risotto.

## TECHNICAL ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

pH	3.37
Total acidity	6.1 g/l
Alcohol	12.5%
Residual Sugar	<1 g/l

## ABOUT ALPHA DOMUS

From our origins in 1989, establishing both vineyard and winery, Alpha Domus was a pioneer in the renowned Bridge Pa Triangle Wine District of Hawke's Bay. New Zealand family owned, we have always been inspired to create beautiful wines of worth; the importance of quality and expert craftsmanship paramount. Alpha is derived from the first initials of the founding family members names in age descending order, Anthonius, Leonarda, Paulus, Henrikus and Anthony, Domus is Latin for home.

ALPHA — DOMUS

