



# Katnook

## FOUNDER'S BLOCK

### Katnook Founder's Block Chardonnay Pinot Noir

NV

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#### "8.5/10"

Max Crus, The Daily Examiner, 31 December, 2012

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#### "89 points"

James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion 2015, 30 July 2014

Very pink given the dominance of chardonnay (80%) in the blend, and its average age of three and a half years; the flavours, too, are of red fruits more than citrus.

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#### "Appealingly effervescent"

Peter Bourne, Gourmet Traveller Wine

Australian sparkling is on show with Katnook Estate, a carefully crafted beauty. Katnook's winemaker Wayne Stehbens has crafted this sparkling from classic Champagne varieties - chardonnay and pinot noir. It's appealingly effervescent with pink grapefruit, candied fruit and brioche flavours.

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#### "Balanced Palate and Crisp Finish"

Frank Smith, Have A Go News, 1 November 2014

This sparkling wine is made from 80 per cent Chardonnay and 20 per cent Pinot Noir, all grown in Coonawarra vineyards. This sparkling wine displays an integrated blend of flavours including caramel, pears, yeast and bread with subtle floral scents. Toasty and nutty flavours add texture and complexity. It has a subtle richness, balanced palate and crisp finish.

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#### "Best Aussie NV sparkling we've had"

Lindsay Saunders, Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, 22 December 2012

We raved about this a few months ago and we have brought it out again because, upon reflection, this is the best Aussie NV sparkling we've had. There, we said it. Bright, crisp, floral and fruity with awesome depth and a fine bubble to it, there are pears and apples on the palate along with yeasty nutty notes and a lovely lingering finish. And again, all this for under \$30. You'd pay more for some French sparkling wines and be disappointed in comparison. A perfect festive drop.

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#### "Bright and bubbly"

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury, 25th November 2010

Made from the traditional cool climate varieties of chardonnay and pinot noir. Bright and bubbly with yeasty notes on the nose, stonefruit, citrus and pear, lively acidity and a lingering finish.

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#### "Citrus, pear and floral characters"

Mike Frost, Courier Mail, 23 November 2012

There's citrus, pear and floral characters on the nose and palate of this Coonawarra bubbly, with a creamy palate, a touch of yeasty flavours and a crisp finish. Enjoy by itself or with appetisers such as smoked salmon. \$22-\$25. Check fine wine outlets.

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### "Classic cool climate bubbly"

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury, 6th May 2010

Classic cool climate bubbly. Yeasty, nutty notes on the nose- bright citrus fruit flavours, a steady stream of tiny bubbles and a crisp, clean finish.

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### "Coconut and nougat"

Christine Ricketts, National Liquor News, October 2009

Bronzed copper hue, with a perfumed nose showing hints of coconut and nougat. Pleasant mouthfeel with good acidity to balance the stonefruit.

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### "Dangerously easy drinking"

Rick Allen, Manly Daily, 27 March 2015

Katnook sits in the heart of Coonawarra and is more renowned for its cabernet sauvignon – and rightly so, it's invariably very good - but they're dab hands at sparkling wine too. This non-vintage wine is testament to that. A blend of 60 per cent chardonnay and 40 per cent pinot noir, it's super value. Has loads of bubbly vitality, a rich texture and crisp acidity on the finish. For its price point, it's mighty impressive – dangerously easy drinking.

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### "Delicate Mousse, Crisp Finish"

Ross Noble, Mount Barker Courier, 12 November 2014

The Katnook Founder's Block Coonawarra Chardonnay Pinot Noir NV is named in honor of the original land holding of pioneer John Riddoch. Worth a visit if only for the restored 19th Century buildings but the wines are very good too..

Chardonnay provides 60% of the blend from several vintages with an average age of three and a half years. Yeasty flavors, delicate mousse, crisp finish.

### "Delicate, Elegant"

Regan Drew, Daily Mercury, Chronicle, Morning Bulletin & North, 22 November 2014

Coonawarra: 60% Chardonnay. 40% Pinot Noir. Burnished brown onion skin in colour. Plenty of red strawberry and fresh white bread crust smells. Delicate, elegant Pinot provides red apple and strawberry flavours with a fine bead. Rating: 8.5/10

### "Easy-drinking bubbly"

Christine Salins, [www.foodwinetravel.com.au](http://www.foodwinetravel.com.au), 14 February 2015

Toasty and nutty with a little bit of residual sugar, this is a good, easy-drinking bubbly that's spot-on for the price and still going to impress your mate.

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### "Flavoursome"

Winestate, 1 December 2013

Strawberry /candy floss nose and quite a savoury palate that's complex and flavoursome.

### "Fresh, affordable and multifaceted wine"

John Lewis, Newcastle Herald, 31 October 2012

With an 80 per cent chardonnay and 20 per cent pinot noir base, this is a fresh, affordable and multifaceted wine. Elegant white peach flavour displays on the front of the palate and sidelights of quince paste, freshly baked croissant and restrained cashew oak check in on the middle palate. River stones acid livens up the taste buds at the finish. RATING: 4 & 1/2 glasses

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### "Light pink blush - fine, busy bubbles"

Joh Lewis, Newcastle Herald, 7th April 2010

The base wine of this well-priced bubbly is 80 per cent chardonnay and 20 per cent pinot noir. It is straw hued with a light pink blush and has fine, busy bubbles. The nose has aromas of freshly baked bread and the front of the palate brings forth crisp nashi pear flavour. Nuances of citrus, marzipan and macadamia shortbread chime in on the middle palate and steely acid livens the tastebuds at the finish. DRINK WITH: sushi, chicken satay or nori and wonton wrapped prawns AGEING: 12 months RATING: four glasses.

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### "Lively medium-fine bubbles"

John Lewis, Newcastle Herald, 24 January 2015

The base wine is 80 per cent chardonnay and 20 per cent pinot noir with an average age of four years. The wine is green-tinted gold and has lively medium fine bubbles. The nose has marzipan scents, and fresh white peach flavour comes through on the front of the palate. Elements of quince paste, freshly baked bread and restrained nutty oak chime in on the middle palate. Steely acid holds sway at the finish. The Katnook, Deakin Estate and Crackerjack wine brands are owned by Spain's giant Freixenet group

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### "Lively, fun sparkler"

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury, 6 December 2012

Lively, fun sparkler from the cool climate Coonawarra region. Yeasty notes on the nose, citrus and pears, fine bubbles and a lively finish.

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### "Nice bubbles"

Winestate Magazine, Nov/Dec 2010

Nice bubbles, some developed orange rind aromas and great peachy flavours on a creamy palate.

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### "One glass is not enough"

Peter Chapman, Daily Mercury, Chronicle & Morning Bulletin , 24 December 2014

Founder's Block bubbles that provide fresh fruit and a clean crisp acid finish. One glass is not enough.

RATING:94/100

### "Peach, quince, strawberries"

Ben Thomas, Melbourne Weekly Review, 1st June 2010

This is pink, or blush, which always puts a smile on my face. From an area not well known for its fizz, this smells like peach, quince, strawberries and cake and has a nice acid balance and structure. The bubbles are not too fizzy, but creamy and moussy with flavours of pear and quince and a dry finish. It shows class. Serve with wild mushroom risotto. 4 stars.

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### "Pears, apples and caramel"

Lindsay Saunders, Gold Coast Bulletin, 11th September 2012

Pears, apples and caramel on the palate with a crisp and clean

finish. It's quite fine of bubble too, which makes it all the more delightful and refined. With spring upon us there'd be worse ways to greet it than a bottle of this as an aperitif while the sun goes down. Perhaps team it with fresh seafood, such as medium king prawns. Roll on the warmer months.

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### "Persistent bubbly finish"

Ross Noble, Mount Barker Courier, 13 November 2013

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There is a whiff of candy or fairy floss from the Katnook Founder's Block Coonawarra Chardonnay Pinot Noir NV. The palate is creamy and peachy on the persistent bubbly finish.

### "Racy apple acidity"

Alan Hunter, Courier Mail, 29 November 2014

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Katnook's home and fruit source is Coonawarra in South Australia. An 80/20 split of chardonnay and pinot noir has complexity derived from neutral barrel maturation. Pear and custard apple tones lend plumpness to the mid palate ahead of freshness from a racy apple acidity.

### "Silky and long, 91 points"

James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion, 2012

Blush pink, the colour of rose; an 80% / 20% blend with an average age of 3.5 years on tirage; is fresh and particularly well balanced the palate silky and long. Rating 91. Cellar to 2014. *Special value = wine considered to offer special value for money.*

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### "Superfine. 90 points"

James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion

Bright straw-green; while predominantly chardonnay, does have small amounts of pinot noir and pinot meunier in the base wine; it is superfine and very delicate, and would benefit greatly with further time on tirage.

Rating 90. Cellar to 2016.

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### "The best we've had for under \$30"

Lindsay Saunders, Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, 10 November 2012

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OK so Tuesday was the day for quaffing fizzy plonks... so sue us. Perhaps you need a pick-me-up after all the spring racing related madness or perhaps, like us, you are always on the lookout for a reasonably priced sparkler that bats above its weight. So here's the thing - this is an absolute winner and has lodged itself in our top five Aussie sparkling wines. In fact, we say it's the best we've had for under \$30, including non-Champagnes from France. Bright, crisp, floral and fruity with a depth of flavour rare in this price range, we know what we'll be stocking for the coming festive season.

### "Vibrant Fruitiness"

David Sly, SA Life, 1 December 2014

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Sparkling wine is not what you'd expect from Coonawarra winemaker Wayne Stehbens, but it makes sense as the winery's parent owner, Freixenet Spain, is the largest producer of Spanish sparkling wines. This tank-made sparkling has up to six-year-old fruit: 80 per cent chardonnay and 20 per cent pinot noir (all from the estate's Coonawarra vineyards), matured in older barrels to develop complex nutty flavours, while still leading with vibrant fruitiness.

### "Zing of acidity"

Campbell Mattison, Winefront, 3 November 2014

No pretensions here. Sweet fruit flavour, quite flaccid, peaches, nuts and strawberries, a zing of acidity through the finish.

Rated : 85 Points