



Tony Bish Wines

2023 Vintage Overview

What a year 2023 has been! The bad has been painfully obvious with the devastating effects of Cyclone Gabrielle, but there have also been some silver linings. Cyclone Gabrielle was only the start of our vintage woes, the ensuing rain the week after was the real coup de grâce for many of our vineyards that were on the early ripening sites. We consequently lost 85% of our scheduled grape intake, a punishing situation. We quickly pivoted to Marlborough for our beloved Fat & Sassy, and my many friends and colleagues in the region rallied to our support. Marlborough had an excellent vintage, and our 2023 Fat & Sassy is tasting fantastic! As many of you will have heard, we lost Denis & Sally Gunn's Skeetfield Vineyard crop to flood waters. However, the vineyard was not badly damaged, the flood waters went through so fast that no silt was laid down. Today the vineyard is a picture of health again, and we look forward to a normal harvest next March from this extraordinary high-quality vineyard. The absolute highlight of the vintage was the Mendoza clone Chardonnay at Ian & Linda Quinn's Two Terraces Vineyard. Exemplary viticulture, dedication to excellence, and sheer hard graft resulted in a late pick of the most beautiful Chardonnay. Our team of volunteer pickers and some delightful Vanuatuan RSE workers did a brilliantly clean hand-pick, and coupled with our best Taransaud oak barriques, we have an absolutely stunning Single Vineyard Two Terraces Chardonnay wine in the cellar.



The wonderful Vanuatuan RSE pickers - always smiling and singing!