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CHAPEL DOWN KITS COTY BACCHUS

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Established in 2002 in the town of Tenterden, Kent, Chapel Down is one of the longest-running producers of English wine. Although officially established in 2002, the history of viticulture on the site dates back to the late 1970s when the first vines were planted. Today, the estate still encompasses the original plot planted in the 1970s, but has since expanded its acreage under vine throughout the North Downs and beyond, with over 1,000 acres under vine. Kit's Coty is the best plot on their estate, comprising 100acres in the heart of the Downs.

Chapel Down currently grows both Chardonnay and Bacchus on their Kit's Coty vineyard plot. With a southerly aspect that ensures the vines capture sunlight all season, a warm maritime climate, and soils rich in chalk and clay that help retain heat while providing excellent drainage to prevent waterlogging, the plot is ideally suited for growing Bacchus and Chardonnay. Led by Richard Lewis, Chapel Down employs a holistic approach to viticulture management, prioritising cultural methods to minimise the need for pesticides and herbicides. The vineyard team uses an innovative approach to managing the estate, utilising data to inform their decisions, from planting new vines to managing existing ones.

