



2009 CHARDONNAY

How seldom today does one find chardonnay permitted to express its true nature, resembling more a lush, sweet golden delicious apple than the oppressive toast and butter we see nowadays.

We all know that California Chardonnay has become something of a beast. Quite a few unfortunate winemakers are forced by their masters to submit this perfectly innocent grape to heavy wood extracts and heavy buttermilk fermentations which obscure its true character. Many wine lovers, in fact, will not permit such brutes into their homes.

Oddly, few of us know what this delicious and popular grape actually tastes like! In order to present it properly, it behooved us to locate a very fine yet sensibly priced vineyard source, harvest at the peak of ripeness and simply fermented to dryness. The lightest kiss of French oak toast was required in order to frame the wine's resulting lush natural sweetness.

This offering from a lovely Santa Barbara vineyard comes naturally by its rich, oily full body without the assistance of heavy-handed oak extraction, and the overall impression is that of fragrant honeysuckle and of lush apricot stone fruit. The restrained alcohol opens up the finish wonderfully, where a lively minerality of its Napa component bestows a palate-cleansing raciness.

As with riding your old pennyfarthing, balance is everything. Perfect crispness, perfect oak, perfect weight. Delight your guests with our chardonnay indoors, or pack it into a picnic basket laden with chicken, cashews and pears.

The whimsical pennyfarthing bicycle evokes bygone days when life was simpler and more joyful. Our winery provides old-fashioned value that is hand-crafted and simply delicious.

Vineyard Location: 89% Santa Barbara

Harvest Sugar: 25.1 Brix

Vineyard Location: 11% Napa Valley

Harvest Sugar: 24.8 Brix

Fermentation techniques:

South African NT112 yeast
In-barrel fermentation at 70°F
Post-fermentation malolactic

Elevage details:

Successfully resisted over-oaking

Bottling information:

TA 6.7 g/L, pH 3.38 at bottling
Alcohol 13.9%

498 cases were produced.

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