

T O R

TOR Chardonnay Hudson Vineyard, Wente Clone, 2010

Blend: 100% Hudson selection Wente Clone Chardonnay
Production: 150 cases
Release date: February 2012

Vintage

2010 is like 2009 in that it produced wines of great intensity, nerve, and character, but it did so in a very different way. Both vintages were cool ones with long hang time but 2009 started earlier and ended earlier. In 2010, spring was wet and late. Bud break was late, veraison was late, harvest was late, but thankfully September gave us ideal weather to bring our fruit in from (Hudson, Durell, Beresini) in superb shape. August was marked by a significant heat blast that presented another twist. We had to thin in the field, removing any grapes affected, and then we had to thin again at the winery. In the end, easily one of our best Chardonnay vintages - a small but high quality crop.

Vineyards

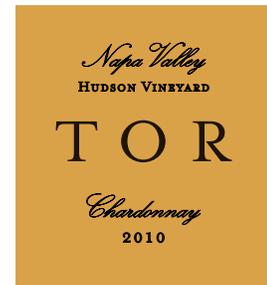
Lee Hudson is a meticulous farmer with a great piece of land. He has the advantage of location and rocky well-drained soils. Over the decades, Lee nurtured his vineyard, continually fine-tuning his art, using heritage shot cluster clones, such as old Wente, and propagating his own selections from these shy-bearing clones. As vines were replaced over these years, Lee replaced them with plant material proven to make exceptional Chardonnays from Hudson Vineyard. Our block is one of the rockiest in the vineyard, a proven site with proven vines, in a great site for Chardonnay.

Winemaking

These Chardonnays were all made in a very traditional Burgundian fashion. What does that mean? For our Chardonnays we use native yeasts for primary and malolactic fermentations, we do not fine or filter the wines. We work hard to bring the most honest and truest expressions of the vineyard to you, with the least amount of additions or subtractions.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

This shows classic Hudson Chardonnay aromatics of honeysuckle, sweet butter, peaches and a touch of mint. As great as the aromatics are, it is on the palate where this wine really shines with quince, orange marmalade and honeycomb. There is a richness allied with a polish on the palate of this that is truly rare. Probably the best Hudson Vineyard Chardonnay to date, this will be a wine to savor over the next 5+ years.



"...captures the essence of the cold year in its intense minerality... convinces for its rich, intensely layered fruit and fabulous overall balance. This is a fabulous showing."

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Robert Parker's
The Wine Advocate
December 2011