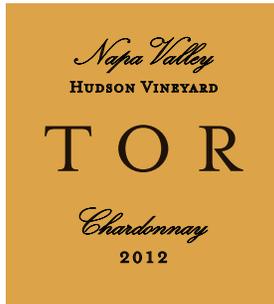


T O R



TOR Chardonnay Hudson Vineyard, Wente Clone, 2012

Blend: 100% Hudson selection Wente Clone Chardonnay
Production: 240 cases
Release date: February 2014

Vintage

It is funny, but “classic” and “perfect” are words bantered about a lot about this bountiful, beautiful vintage. To me it was “classic” growing conditions - early bud break, no frost damage, relatively dry spring, with less than an inch in April, then nothing till October, and less than an inch that final month of harvest. One heat spike in June, another in early October, but just beautiful otherwise, with very cool evenings and warm, idyllic days. It was a great year to be a farmer. A vintner had to beware, for after two very short crops in 2010 and 2011 - 2012 set a big crop that had to be thinned many times. We managed this crop religiously in all our vineyards, some with draconian vigor, and because of that, only can I roughly use the word, “perfect”. Man had to interfere to bring things into balance for what will easily be termed a great Napa Valley vintage.

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, continuously 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 replanted them with plant material proven to make exceptional Chardonnays from Hudson Vineyard terrior. Our block is one of the rockiest in the vineyard, a proven site with proven vines, in a great Chardonnay vineyard.

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

The 2012 Hudson vineyard Chardonnay’s palate profile sits somewhere between the Torchiana and Durell Chardonnay. It has some of the plushness and richness of the Durell but has the tension and bright profile of the Torchiana. If you read between the lines that is saying that this might be the best Hudson Chardonnay that we have ever had. This is a complete wine in all respects with a very big drinking window from now through the next 5-7 years, and probably beyond.