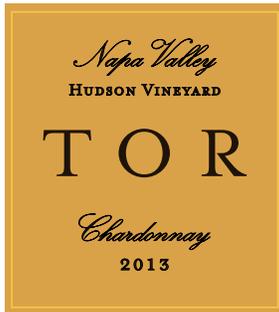


T O R



TOR Chardonnay Hudson Vineyard, Wente Clone, 2013

Blend: 100% Hudson selection Wente Clone Chardonnay
Production: 275 cases
Release date: February 2015

Vintage

It is rare, and I look back now on 38 harvests, to have two vintages like 2012 and 2013 next to each other. Both would qualify in Bordeaux terms as vintages of the century. Both started early, had long and relatively even growing seasons, both had average to above average (depending on site) crop levels. Both gave us or most of us the opportunity when to pick when we wanted, which meant levels of ripeness was up to us. Ripeness is subjective in winemaking, but to us very specific. Think of that perfect peach at the farmers market. The grower made sure the tree was not over cropped, sustainably farmed, and that each peach had the opportunity to get sweet and ripe. Ripe meant the fruit was still firm, has good acid and tooth aching sweetness. Like that farmer, we chose to pick the moment just after the seeds lose their greenness and just before the clusters start to soften and lose their magic. It is a small window, and in 2013 we found it again and again. Peachy keen.

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 honest and true expressions of the vineyard to you, with the least amount of additions or subtractions.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

In a lineup of the four 2013 Chardonnays - you can pick out the Hudson Chardonnay if you have had Hudson before - it just tastes like Hudson. The 2013 Hudson is easily the richest version of this vineyard that we have ever produced. This tastes like a blend of a Corton-Charlemagne and a Napa Chardonnay, with tremendous balance and precision, as well as rich cream, honeysuckle and lemon oil. If I were to drink one of the 2013 Chardonnays upon release, this would be the wine I would choose.