

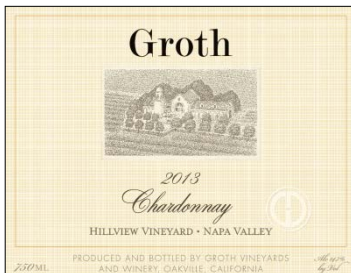


Groth

VINEYARDS & WINERY

Rooted in Oakville

2013 CHARDONNAY HILLVIEW VINEYARD • NAPA VALLEY



Vintage: “MELLOW” is the word that comes to mind to describe the vintage from a winegrowing and winemaker perspective. “FANTASTIC” is the word that comes to mind to describe the quality and bounty of the crop. Two outstanding years in a row – Mother Nature has blessed us again. Early bud break was followed by exceptional weather that continued through the entire season. There was no need to be frantic about picking, we were all very relaxed. We were able to pick when the grapes were at their finest, giving us fantastic fruit expression, balance, and liveliness in the whites and outrageous color, and bodacious tannin structure in the reds. 2013 will go down in the annals as one of the greats along with 2012. Two in a row – WOW!

Harvest: Our Chardonnay is made entirely from grapes grown in our Hillview Vineyards, located in the Oak Knoll District AVA, which was planted in 1996. The fruit from this cooler vineyard site provides the tropical fruit, citrus and mineral notes that complement food nicely.

Winemaking: All of the 2013 Chardonnay fruit was whole cluster pressed. This gives us juice with incredible fruit flavors and softness. After pressing and cold settling, the juice was transferred to French oak barrels, 25% of which were new, for fermentation and aging. After eight months of aging “sur lie”, the wine was racked off the yeast lees, blended and finished for bottling.

Winemaker Tasting notes: Long, cool fermentation in a mixture of old and new barrels gives our Chardonnay layers of fruitiness and complexity that result in a wine that is very enjoyable when young or after several years of bottle age. This method of fermentation, in conjunction with whole cluster pressing and "sur lie" aging add layers of toastiness and creaminess to the wine. Together these components meld together harmoniously to create a balanced wine that is both lively and rich in aroma and flavor.

Key Points

- Napa Valley
- Estate vineyard fruit - 100% Hillview Vineyard
- 100% Chardonnay
- Pick Dates September 5-8, 2013
- Barrel fermented
- No Malolactic Fermentation
- Aged sur lie in French oak barrels for eight months, 25% new oak

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