



Groth

2021 CHARDONNAY HILLVIEW ESTATE VINEYARD, NAPA VALLEY

This single-vineyard Chardonnay is sourced exclusively from the Groth family's Hillview Estate south of Yountville, which they purchased in 1982. This wine highlights the beautiful fruit character and underlying minerality that so often exemplifies white wines from the Oak Knoll District.

VINTAGE: Harvest began on August 30, and it was smooth and evenly paced, without as many heat spikes as we've seen in recent Napa Valley vintages. Milder weather meant we could pick more gradually, and it gave the grapes plenty of time to ripen and develop deep color and flavor. Continuing drought meant the vines struggled to access water, and the result was smaller clusters and berries yielding wines with intense flavor.

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

WINEMAKING: We whole-cluster pressed the major portion of the Chardonnay fruit, giving us juice with incredibly delicate fruit flavors and softness. About 20% of the fruit was destemmed prior to pressing, yielding juice with a bigger structure and rich aromatics. After pressing and cold settling, the juice was transferred to French oak barrels for fermentation and aging. After eight months of aging sur lie, the wine was racked off the yeast lees, blended and finished for bottling.

TASTING NOTES: Beautifully expressive, the 2021 vintage displays classic Chardonnay aromas of lemon and green apple, along with a mineral and floral edge. Scents of orange blossom and poached pear are followed by fragrant notes of linalool, hints of clove and even papaya. Fresh and bright acidity marks the palate, along with notes of citrus and wet stone leading to a full, lingering finish.

PAIRING SUGGESTION: This wine's refreshing acidity and well-rounded flavor profile make it a great match for a range of dishes, including linguine with clam sauce, seared Dungeness crab cakes, or crispy fried tofu and rice noodles.

KEY POINTS

- 100% sustainably farmed estate fruit from our Hillview Vineyard, Napa Valley
- Varietal composition: 100% Chardonnay
- Pick dates: September 6 to September 8, 2021
- Barrel-fermented
- Aged sur lie in French oak barrels for eight months; 15% new French oak

