



# *Wine Spots*

## 2010 Monterey Chardonnay

### **OVERVIEW**

- Fruit selected from vineyards in the cool-climate Monterey, where a long growing season provides ample hang time to develop rich fruit flavors and balanced acidity.
- No malolactic fermentation, thus preserving the bright acidity of the wine.

### **VINEYARDS & VINTAGE**

The grapes for this Chardonnay were sourced from vineyards in the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA of Monterey County. The Pacific Ocean's morning fogs and cool winds are drawn into the Salinas Valley from the Monterey Bay, creating one of the world's longest growing seasons. The longer growing season provides ample hang time, allowing Chardonnay wines to develop full, forward fruit flavors and balanced acidity. The vineyards benefit from well-drained granitic soils and are sheltered from harsh weather by the Santa Lucia Mountains.

The 2010 growing season in Monterey was the coolest in almost 10 years. Early season frost and cool temperatures delayed vine growth in some areas, but quickly caught up in August due to unusually high heat spikes. Grape acidity was nicely preserved and the extended hang time enhanced the bright fruit flavors.

### **FERMENTATION AND MATURATION**

Chardonnay grapes were harvest roughly 1-1.5 Brix below average due to a cool September and October. The small clusters of Chardonnay grapes were harvested at an ideal balance of sugar and acid. The wine was barrel fermented in neutral French oak barrels and aged sur lies for four months. The Chardonnay did not undergo malolactic fermentation, thus preserving its bright acidity and maintaining the varietal's natural characteristics.

### **TASTING NOTES**

The 2010 Monterey Chardonnay captures the cool-climate characteristics of Monterey and varietal. The wine has crisp acidity and intense tropical fruit, hallmarks of Monterey. Crisp acidity and nuances of sweet oak create a well-balanced, fruit-forward Chardonnay.

### **TECHNICAL FACTS**

Region: 100% Monterey  
Varietal: 100% Chardonnay  
Alcohol: 13.5%

### **WINE SPOTS**

Wine Spots offers an exploration into the finest wine regions around the world. Working with some of the best vineyards and top winemakers, our boutique collection of wines captures the distinctive qualities and terroir that make the regions unique. Discover your favorite spot.