



Wine Spots

2011 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 hangtime, allowing Chardonnay wines to develop full, fruit forward flavors and balanced acidity. The vineyards benefit from well-drained granitic soils and are sheltered from harsh weather by the Santa Lucia Mountains.

The 2011 growing season in Monterey is remembered for its wet spring, unusually mild summer and a heavy storm in October. Even though crop yields were below average due to the cool growing conditions, the harvested grapes were of extremely good quality. The extended hangtime resulted in enhanced bright fruit flavors, while preserving the acidity of the wine.

FERMENTATION AND MATURATION

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 2011 Wine Spots Monterey Chardonnay captures the cool-climate characteristics of Monterey and varietal. The wine has crisp acidity and intense tropical fruit, hallmarks of Monterey. 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. Our boutique collection of wines captures the distinctive qualities and terroir that make the regions unique. The wines are sourced from our favorite regions renowned for producing that varietal. Each drop on the label reflects some of our favorite wine spots in California. We invite you to take a unique journey through California's acclaimed wine regions, including Napa Valley, Carneros and Monterey. Discover your favorite spot.