



2003 Tinaquaic Vineyard Chardonnay

Our ten-acre estate vineyard lies above Foxen Canyon within the historic Rancho Tinaquaic on a southeastern facing slope above the winery. Personally planted in 1987 by Dick Doré and Bill Wathen, the Tinaquaic Vineyard is dry-farmed, which results in extremely low yielding vines and intensely-flavored fruit. Five acres of this vineyard is planted with Wente Clone Chardonnay that produces exceptionally small clusters resulting in intensely-flavored.

2003 was an excellent vintage, Tinaquaic Vineyard Chardonnay—with the Wente Clone averaging only one ton per acre, and the Davis 4 Clone averaging 2.2 tons per acre. Two years into a three year drought insured another particularly low yield vintage from our estate vineyard. In 2003 we yielded a mere 22 barrels of Chardonnay from our seven acres of vineyard.

Whole-cluster pressed, cold settled and racked to barrel (20% new Saury) for a long, slow fermentation. The wine was aged in barrel “sur-lies” for one year prior to bottling. As usual, the wine was delicately bottled without filtration.

Winemaker's Notes:

This wine displays wonderful aromas and flavors of pineapple, grapefruit, honeysuckle, and lime peel, with distinctive minerality characteristic of Chardonnay from our estate Tinaquaic Vineyard.

Production: 550 cases