



2003 PAHLMAYER SONOMA COAST CHARDONNAY

TECHNICAL NOTES

Release Date:	October 1, 2005	Bottled:	August 16, 2004
Suggested Retail:	\$70 per bottle	Alcohol:	14.9%
Winemaker:	Erin Green	PH:	3.67
Harvest dates:	September 24 to October 13, 2003	Total Acidity:	0.56
Composition:	100% Chardonnay	Crushing Regime:	100% Whole Cluster, Direct to Press
Vineyard Composition:	100% Ritchie	Fermentation:	100% Wild, Native Yeast

WINEMAKER NOTES

This chardonnay is produced from Kent Ritchie's vineyard in the Russian River Valley. Often a late ripener, the weather in 2003 allowed for maximum hang time and flavor development. With lots of honeyed extractive notes, lemon crème and diverse citrus flavors, this wine has a wide spectrum of flavors with great depth.

The whole-cluster grapes were barrel-fermented on wild yeasts and aged in 100% new French oak barrels for 11 months. The wine also progressed through 100% malolactic fermentation.

RATINGS

Robert Parker, Wine Advocate Issue #157, February 2005:

The 2003 Chardonnay Sonoma Coast (basically made from an old Wente Chardonnay clone of 30-year-old vines planted in the Ritchie Vineyard) is great stuff. A full-bodied, honeyed nose of pastry, lemon butter, and orange marmalade is followed by a wine with wonderful stuffing, richness, texture, full body, and a Burgundy-like minerality. The good news is there are 700 cases of this stunning effort. 93 points

Stephen Tanzer, International Wine Cellar, May/June 2005:

Hazy, full yellow-gold. Supertripe aromas of pineapple, apricot, lemon cream and exotic spices. Concentrated, thick flavors of tropical fruits firm by an edge of acidity. Began a bit salty and phenolic but grew fresher and showed more minerality as it opened in the glass. A bit edgy on the aftertaste. From an old Wente clone planted in Kent Ritchie's Poplar Vineyard. 90(+?) points

James Laube, Wine Spectator, June 30, 2005:

A well-oaked style. Nicely done, with lots of creamy vanilla wood flavors wrapped around a center of ripe apple and pear fruit. Finishes with a splash of pineapple and guava, which is the most fascinating aspect. Drink now through 2009. 90 points

AVAILABILITY

The Pahlmeyer 2003 Sonoma Coast Chardonnay is available beginning October 1, 2005 either directly from the winery, or through our network of fine restaurants and retail merchants around the world. For further information, please visit us at www.pahlmeyer.com.