



## 2012 PAHLMAYER CHARDONNAY NAPA VALLEY

HARVESTED		August 24, 2012
VINEYARDS		Pahlmeyer Waters Ranch, Atlas Peak Vineyard, Stagecoach Vineyard
BOTTLED		August 21, 2013
COMPOSITION		100% Chardonnay
ALCOHOL		14.9%
WINEMAKER		Kale Anderson

### VINTAGE NOTES

There was early excitement for the 2012 vintage as growing conditions in Napa Valley were nearly perfect for bud break and bloom. As a result, the vines set a generous amount of clusters, gracing us with higher than normal yields. The ensuing warm yet mild summer provided an extended ripening period resulting in extraordinary quality that beams with bright colors and balances rich, extracted flavors with a fresh acidity.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were hand-sorted and gently whole-cluster pressed. After overnight settling, the juice was racked to barrels for 100% native yeast barrel fermentation followed by malolactic fermentation. The wine was aged in 85% new French oak barrels for eleven months on the lees and stirred weekly. It was neither fined nor sterile filtered, hence a possibly cloudy appearance.

### TASTING NOTES

Aromas of ripe peach and summer flowers, layered with wisps of creamy lemon oil, leap out of the glass. The wine's smooth, rich viscosity and superfine minerality carry sophisticated notes of white nectarine, pear and honeysuckle across the palette. The lingering finish reveals flavors end with a light caramel, hazelnut and hints of Key lime zest.

### RATINGS

#### **Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #209, October 2013:**

"Pahlmeyer's spectacular 2012 Chardonnay offers abundant aromas of hazelnuts, buttered citrus, tropical fruits and honeysuckle intermixed with a touch of tangerine oil. It cuts a full-bodied swath across the palate, and possesses good acidity, exuberant fruit and an undeniably sexy style. Bravo!" **95 Points.**