
LIOCO

Chardonnay Stuhlmuller 2005

TASTING NOTES

BRAND OVERVIEW

A new project from Matt Lickliger (formerly of North Berkeley Imports) and Kevin O'Connor (current wine director at Spago Beverly Hills). LIOCO specializes in unwooded Chardonnay and "under-wooded" Pinot Noir from pedigreed vineyards (including Durell, Heintz, Michaud, and Hirsch).

SELECTION

We designate a specific block ("Block 1") in the Stuhlmuller Vineyard planted with old-vine Wente clones (the Cadillac of California Chardonnay clones). "Block 1" is the southern most piece of Chardonnay in the entire Alexander Valley, lying just on the flank of the Russian River—a pitching wedge away from Chalk Hill.

TERROIR

The soil is river influenced (a sandy loam with flat river stones, and volcanic substrata) with a high mineral content which comes through in the wine. The mesoclimate too is river influenced, often enshrouded by fog vacuumed into the warm Sonoma Valley from the cool Pacific Ocean). This relative coolness coupled with dramatic temperature swing, makes "Block 1" more akin to Russian River Valley Chardonnay than to its native Alexander Valley cousins.

WINEMAKING

Hand harvested and sorted. Fermented in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks (NO OAK). Native yeast. Partial Malo (20%). Aged on the fine lees for 3-months before bottling.

CATEGORICALLY UNIQUE

This is not just another California Chardonnay priced at \$16, and it should not be presented as such. It is largely without peers because (1) it comes from a pedigreed site with a vocation for this varietal and (2) it is unwooded. Challenge your clients to break trail with this wine.

DETAILS

LIOCO 2005 Chardonnay "Stuhlmuller"

Vineyard: Stuhlmuller Vineyard

AVA: Alexander Valley

County: Sonoma County

Winemaker: Leo Hansen

Production: 1060 cases

PH: 3.5

Total Acidity: 6.9 g/l

Brix: 23.8 degrees

Residual Sugar: .23 g/l

Alcohol: 14.2%

Harvest dates: 09-28 and 10-05

Bottling dates: February 21

Yeast: M2 and BA11

Tons per acre: 3

Clones: Clone 4 and Upper Barn



PRICE

NOTES