



Far Niente produces critically acclaimed, estate bottled Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon wines that are renowned for their consistent house style and ability to evolve with extended age.



The Napa Valley Wine Estate

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Far Niente

1993 Estate Bottled Chardonnay

Napa Valley

The 1993 harvest was the seventh and final year of drought in the Napa Valley. Cool spring rains provided enough moisture for normal early growth and fruit set with the mild spring temperatures. The weather remained very nice throughout the summer before turning quite warm in August. Fortunately, cool weather followed the heat thereby allowing the grapes to await full maturity under ideal conditions. Each of our estate vineyards proved to have lower yields than expected due to small berry size and consequently yielded even more intense flavors than expected.

The grapes were hand harvested in the cool morning then brought to the winery in small bins where they were again sorted by hand to assure quality. Fermentation began in temperature controlled stainless tanks, the wine was then racked into a high percentage of new French Burgundy Oak Barrels to complete the fermentation process in our caves and old stone cellar. The wine was aged on its yeast lees for additional depth, complexity, and texture. After approximately seven months of barrel aging, each wine was evaluated as part of the blend. Only those barrels that displayed both the required quality and unique "Far Niente style" were included in the blend which was lightly fined and filtered prior to bottling in the summer of 1994.

The 1993 Far Niente Estate Chardonnay is a beautifully structured wine that shows uncommon roundness, richness, and opulence on the palate while displaying the classic fruit and spicy oak aromas that have become synonymous with Far Niente Chardonnay. While the finish is long and clean, these rich flavors will become increasingly full and complex with time. The 1993 Far Niente Chardonnay has excellent potential to age for a decade or more.

Dirk Hampson
Director of Winemaking