



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

1994 Estate Bottled Chardonnay

Napa Valley

The 1994 harvest occurred during a wonderful fall where patience and timing was important. Shortly after the last of the grapes were picked and safely in the winery, we experienced some of the most severe storms ever recorded in our region. The 1994 growing conditions were very nice from bloom right through the harvest, giving the perfect conditions to bring the grapes to full maturity in our estate vineyards starting on the 8th of September and lasting until the 12th of October.

The hand harvested grapes were brought to the winery in small bins and then sorted by hand to assure the finest quality. The fermentation began in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks, and was then racked into a high percentage of new French Burgundy Oak Barrels to complete the fermentation 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 quality and the "Far Niente style" were included in the blend which was lightly fined prior to bottling in the summer of 1995.

The 1994 Chardonnay is a classically structured wine that is both lush and round on the palate while displaying the typical intensity of fruit and spicy oak aromas that have become synonymous with Far Niente Chardonnay. While the finish is long and clean, the rich flavors will become increasingly full and complex with time. The 1994 Far Niente Chardonnay has excellent potential to age ten or more years.

Dirk Hampson
Director of Winemaking