

EXPRESSION WINES



2008 Chardonnay Gap's Crown Vineyard Sonoma Coast

Vineyard Notes

Gap's Crown Vineyard is just outside of the town of Penngrrove, Ca, situated at the confluence of where Sonoma Mountain and its surrounding southwest facing hills meet the Petaluma Wind Gap (Petaluma Gap). Lingering fog in the mornings during the growing season allows Gap's Crown fruit to ripen slowly, resulting in balanced acidity and ripe fruit flavors and aromas. This unique cool climate, combined with the soil, slope and aspect diversity of this great vineyard site has made fruit from this property among the most highly sought after in the entire Sonoma Coast appellation.

Winemaker Notes

2008 provided a cool, dry winter, followed by a mild summer that finished up with a nice warm period into harvest. This great weather and a small crop level were enhanced by the cool Pacific breezes and coastal fog that make their way through the Petaluma Gap; making for pristine and intense fruit. The fruit – Dijon Clone 124 - was whole cluster pressed and then fermented in French oak barrels – of which less than 10% were new. The wine was stirred weekly and aged *sur lies* while completing malolactic fermentation for optimum texture and balance. After 11 months in barrel, the wine was bottled without fining or filtration. The result of this process is a Chardonnay that exhibits great fruit and floral characteristics, while maintaining excellent balance, minerality and texture.

STATS

Varietal Content: 100% Chardonnay
Vineyard: Gap's Crown
Appellation: Sonoma Coast, Ca
ALC %: 14.1
Cases Produced: 900

