

WILLIAMS SELYEM



2012 Drake Estate Vineyard Chardonnay

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Meyer lemon and white nectarine notes comingle with fresh floral aromatics in the glass, while citrus peel and stone fruit characteristics are carried through the finish by a focused acidity. The texture of this Chardonnay is rich and opulent, making the 2012 a truly compelling vintage from Drake Estate Vineyard.

THE VINEYARD

The Drake Estate Vineyard is located right on the Russian River near Guerneville, and it has the same Yolo Sandy Silt Loam soil as found in many of the very best vineyards along Westside Road. Originally planted to Rome apples, a late-ripening variety, the property has proven itself an exceptional location for growing Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

HARVEST 2012

Simply put, the 2012 vintage was amazing in many respects. After the cool growing seasons of 2010 and 2011, which resulted in excellent quality but very low yields, Mother Nature was smiling on us in 2012 with superb growing conditions for a bountiful harvest. The exceptional weather during the spring allowed for moderate vegetative growth, superb flowering conditions and an above average fruit set – berries and clusters sized up beyond original expectations. 2012 was a vintage where ripe mature stems, seeds and skin tannins were achieved with harmoniously balanced natural acidity. Enveloped with pure intense aromas, juicy flavors and rich textures, these structured wines are clearly the result of a truly extraordinary vintage. A vintage like this, where everything comes together perfectly, is rare and will certainly be a vintage to enjoy for many years to come!

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 24% new oak, 6% 1 year, 24% 2 years, 46% 3+ years

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.44

TA: 0.66g/100mL

Alc: 14.5%

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\$65

