

# PEAY VINEYARDS

## 2012 ESTATE CHARDONNAY, SONOMA COAST

We have been so excited for the 2012 *Estate* Chardonnay that we poured it at 4 dinners this summer alongside the 2006 *Estate* Chardonnay, a wine we feel is at its peak. The intention was to demonstrate how good the 2006 tastes with 8 years in the bottle and to say, “hey, check out the 2012. It is delicious now and will be even better than the 2006 with a few more years under its belt.”

The nose has a faint smoky, toasty element with green sap and lemon meringue highlights. The initial fruit impression of Bartlett pears and unripe lychee is well-complemented by a soft, round texture. As the wine passes back to the mid-palate it becomes more delineated, leaning out, and leaving distinct mineral and lemon custard notes on the finish. The 2012 is well-proportioned with good depth and structure and should age very well. We would start drinking it in 2015 and believe it will improve to 2020 to 2023.

Clones:	Hyde (30%), Robert Young (22%), Dijon 95 (20%), Dijon 95 (18%), and Rued (10%).
Harvest dates:	October 5 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup>
Primary fermentation:	Whole cluster pressed, 100% indigenous yeast
Secondary fermentation:	100% malolactic fermentation
Aging:	Aged sur lies in 28% new François Frères, Cadus and Damy new French oak barriques for 11 months. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered.
Production:	575 cases

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We farm our vines on a ridge on the northern West Sonoma Coast 4 miles from the chilly Pacific Ocean. A cool afternoon ocean wind, our placement in the coastal inversion layer, and our ancient marine soils allow us to produce wines of elegance, intensity and focus.

Peay Vineyards is a family-run business that we started from scratch in 1996. We planted the first 30 acres of our 52 acre vineyard in 1998 with the remaining planted in 2001 and 2008. We grow and produce Pinot noir, Syrah, Chardonnay, Viognier and Roussanne/Marsanne. 2002 was our first vintage. Our winemaker and – Nick Peay, the grape grower’s wife - is Vanessa Wong, formerly winemaker at Peter Michael Winery.