

• BOOKWALTER WINERY •

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LUSH RED AND VIBRANT WHITE WINES FROM THE COLUMBIA VALLEY



2003 • CHARDONNAY • COLUMBIA VALLEY WASHINGTON

VINTAGE

The 2003 vintage was one of the warmest vintages in the last 10 years with hot weather lasting throughout the entire month of September. The last weeks of October finally brought arctic weather but not until all the grapes were ripened to their optimal potential. Cool sites for white wines were a prerequisite to retain delicate fruit flavors and reasonable acidity in the wines.

VINEYARDS

The vineyard sources for this wine are located in the Columbia Valley Appellation, 39% Stillwater Creek, 39% Conner-Lee, 18% Andrews Horse Heaven and 4% Preston Vineyards.

WINEMAKING

Final Blend - 78% Chardonnay, 18% Chenin Blanc & 4% Johannisberg Riesling. The majority of the grapes were hand harvested on September 11th, crushed, stemmed and pressed immediately after harvest. Clean juice was racked from the lees 3 days after settling in stainless tanks, the subsequent juice lees were filtered back into the body of the main blend to add more character and richness to the wine. The juice was inoculated with M-1 yeast to enhance flavor and aromatics. The fermentation was held strictly at 58 degrees Fahrenheit to maintain the delicate esters, fruit flavors and natural acidity. Fermentation naturally stopped 35 days after the yeast was added. For an additional 75 days after completion of the fermentation, the wine lees were rolled over in the tank to again add richness and texture to the final wine. To add fruit sweetness and balance to the wine, a small amount of Chenin and Riesling were blended in just before bottling.

TECHNICAL DATA

Bottled March, 2004, cases produced 488, pH 3.5 TA .55, Residual Sugar - less than 1%, Average Brix at harvest 23, alcohol 13.3%.

TASTING NOTES

Continuing our contrarian approach of unoaked Chardonnays, we are pleased to bring you our 2003 Chardonnay. Straw like in color with just a hint of fruit sweetness, this wine offers flavors of lemons, green apples and pears followed by a steely, crisp finish. Enjoy now through 2007.

BOOKWALTER CHARDONNAY PEDIGREE

A best buy for years in various publications, this wine is now only available at the winery through the tasting room and wine lounge.



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