



2021 PHELPS VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

JOSEPH JEWELL

They say great wine comes from vineyards with great views and that could not be truer with this site, sitting at 1700 feet elevation in a meadow overlooking the Eel River Valley and rugged coastline.

VINEYARD

Perched atop Perry Meadow at 1700 feet elevation in Humboldt County, Phelps Vineyard is a grand cru site offering breathtaking views of the Mattole Valley and the Eel River Valley, just 10 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Accessible via a rugged 45-minute journey from Brice Land, this remote location fosters an ideal microclimate for grape cultivation, with cool temperatures and oceanic influences extending the growing season. Planted on a bench just below the top of the ridge, Phelps Vineyard is protected from the winds that whip up the Mattole Valley, further enhancing its suitability for producing top-quality grapes.

WINEMAKING

In crafting this barrel-fermented Chardonnay, I aimed to capture the essence of the vineyard in its purest form. Opting for native primary fermentation in barrel allows the grapes' unique characteristics to shine through, giving the wine a distinct personality reflective of its terroir. Embracing 100% malolactic fermentation adds layers of complexity, contributing creamy textures and nuanced flavors to the final product. The choice of aging in 15% new Rousseau HBC ML Rousseau Video French oak barrels for 11 months imparts subtle yet impactful oak notes, enhancing the wine's structure and depth without overpowering its delicate fruit flavors. The result is a Chardonnay that embodies elegance, balance, and a true sense of place.

TASTING NOTES

With each sip, delicate hints of minerality intertwine with the lively citrus notes, evoking a sense of coastal breezes and oceanic freshness. The seamless integration of oak-derived nuances adds layers of complexity, enriching the palate with subtle great structure while maintaining the minerality and vibrant acidity that truly celebrates the essence of Humboldt County's terroir.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

APPELLATION	Humboldt County
CLONES	Clone 4
SOIL TYPES	Franciscan Loam
FARMING	Practicing Organic
YEARS PLANTED	1993
HARVEST DATE	October 2nd 2021
BRIX	22.9
ALCOHOL	13.8%
PRODUCTION	8 Barrels 200 cases