

BOUCHAINE

NAPA VALLEY • CARNEROS

2013 BOUCHE d'OR CHARDONNAY



APPELLATION: Napa Valley - Carneros
VINEYARD: Estate Block 30
MATURATION: 100% stainless steel
HARVEST DATE: December 10, 2013
AGING: 4 months
ALCOHOL: 10.5%
PH: 3.51
TA: 7 g/L
RS: 19 g/L
SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$30
BOTTLING DATE: April 24, 2014
PRODUCTION: 877 6-pack cases (500 mL)

ABOUT THE VINEYARDS

Bouchaine's 100-acre estate vineyard lies on the southern border of Napa Valley's Carneros district, overlooking the Napa-Sonoma Marsh State Wildlife Area with San Francisco and the bay in the distance. Fog, wind, and the cold night time temperatures of this unique geographical area lend distinctive regional identity to Chardonnay.

VINIFICATION

Bouche d'Or, literally "mouth of gold", is an intriguing dessert wine produced from Chardonnay. Each year we designate and reserve two acres of our Estate Chardonnay vineyard for the Bouche d'Or. The main Chardonnay is usually harvested the last part of September with the Bouche d'Or not arriving until December. With very little botrytis bloom this year, the period of concentration was extended, bringing the grapes to the alchemical end point that turns wine to gold.

GROWING SEASON

Vintage 2013 started with a warm spring, then the vines quickly went through bud break, bloom and set. Beautiful weather brought a bountiful crop. Luckily we were blessed with a long, perfect growing season, allowing for mature ripening and lush, layered flavors.

TASTING NOTES

The Bouche d'Or displays a succulent nose of apricots, honey, and almond paste, (vaguely reminiscent of Beerenauslese) that greets the senses and opens to lovely aromatic terpenes. While Bouche d'Or may be sweet, it also has a bright acidity and crispness to it. This wine can stand on its own as a dessert wine and makes a great accompaniment to a cheese course. Hard, salty cheeses like Manchego and aged Gouda pair quite successfully. Less-sweet desserts like lemon meringue tart, grilled peaches or apple galette are also excellent choices.