

2007 Drake Estate Vineyard Chardonnay

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

A classic Russian River Valley chardonnay from one of our coolest sites. The aromas of Pink Lady apples, Asian pears, passion fruit, butterscotch and cinnamon only add to the complexity of these flavors in your mouth. Rich and full of classic Drake Estate flavors like apple pie, mineral and tangerine blossom, it finishes juicy, rich and complex.

—Winemaker Bob Cabral

THE VINEYARD

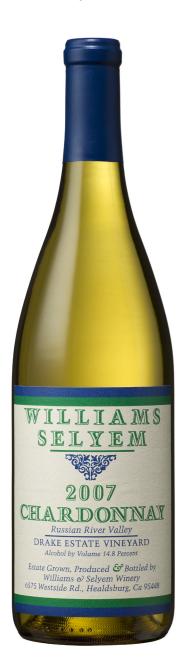
The Drake Estate Vineyard is located right on the Russian River near Guerneville, and it has the same Yolo Sandy Silt Loam soil as found in many of the very best vineyards along Westside Road. Originally planted to Rome apples—a late-ripening variety—the property has proven itself an exceptional location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

HARVEST 2007

The 2007 vintage has produced wines of extremely high quality, wines that are each brilliant expressions of their sites. The growing season was distinguished by its evenness with a cool finish. The summer months were characterized by warm, sunny, near-perfect weather with very few heat spikes during the fruit ripening stage of the vine growth cycle. This resulted in very uniform ripening and optimal development of intense varietal flavors, aromas and expression. The wines of 2007 convey their unique characters in a manner more vivid, precise and evocative than we have come to anticipate. In a decade of exceptional vintages, this one really stands above all others.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 20% new oak, 20% 1-year-old, 30% 2-year, 30% 3+-year Barrel Aged: 18 months pH: 3.29 TA: 0.71g/100mL Alc: 14.8% Released Fall 2009 \$60



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