

## 1993 CHARDONNAY

### New Releases

1. **1993 Geysler Peak**, "Reserve," Alexander Valley (\$20) – Medium-light golden yellow color; attractive, floral, earthy, herbal, toasty, spicy, ripe tropical fruit aroma with overtones of vanilla; full body; rich, intense, slightly viscous, textured, toasty, ripe tropical fruit flavors; lingering aftertaste. Above-average to superior quality. This appealing Chardonnay shows a lot of oak though it's well integrated with the abundant fruit. Deserves another year of bottle aging to round out. Very highly recommended. *13.9% alcohol; 0.63 TA; 3.28 pH; 2,900 cases; 100% barrel fermented (BF); 85% malolactic fermentation (MF); released September 1994.* (Group Score: 16.0 of 20 points, 4 of 14 first-place votes/3 seconds/1 third; My Score: 17 [90 of 100 points], first place)
2. **1993 Truchard**, Carneros, Napa Valley (\$17) – Medium-light golden yellow; assertive, floral, toasty, lemony, appley, ripe Chardonnay fruit aroma with hints of grapefruit and pineapple; medium-full body; rich, elegant, slightly viscous, lemony, buttery flavors with notes of vanilla; well structured; well balanced; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Enjoyable to drink now though deserves another year of bottle aging. Highly recommended. *13.2% alcohol; 0.61 TA; 3.49 pH; 672 cases; 100% BF; 100% MF; released November 1994.* (Group Score: 15.9, 5/0/3; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], third place)
3. **1993 ZD**, "25th Anniversary Vintage," California (\$22) – Medium-light golden yellow; attractive, forward, assertive, toasty, ripe tropical fruit aroma with overtones of vanilla; medium-full body; supple, slightly viscous, lemony, buttery, tropical fruit flavors with a tight, lean center core; well balanced; slightly tart on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Very enjoyable to drink now. Above-average quality. Highly recommended. We feel ZD is one of the most consistent Chardonnay producers in California. *13.8% alcohol; 0.71 TA; 3.23 pH; 18,766 cases; 100% BF; 0% MF; released November 1994.* (Group Score: 15.8, 4/2/1; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], second place)
4. **1993 MacRostie**, Carneros (\$16) – Medium-light golden yellow; pleasant, lemony, toasty, varietal aroma with good depth and a hint of vanilla; medium-full body; slightly viscous, toasty, appley, ripe Chardonnay fruit flavors on the palate; well structured; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Highly recommended. *13.7% alcohol; 0.75 TA; 3.39 pH; 6,000 cases; 100% BF; 100% MF; released October 1994.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/3/3; My Score: 16.5 [85/100], sixth place)
5. **1993 Murphy-Goode**, "Barrel-fermented," Alexander Valley (\$12.50) – Medium-light golden yellow; attractive, rich, toasty, ripe Chardonnay fruit aroma with notes of vanilla; medium-full body; intense, toasty, tropical fruit flavors with good depth and intensity; firm acidity; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. This wine shows a lot of oak. Highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 0.65 TA; 3.30 pH; 16,000 cases; 100% BF; 20% MF; released September 1994.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/2/0; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], fourth place)
6. **1993 Rochioli**, Russian River Valley (\$16) – Medium-light golden yellow; attractive, toasty, ripe, tropical fruit aroma which developed with airing; medium to medium-full body; rich, toasty, buttery, ripe Chardonnay flavors with notes of vanilla; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality.

Highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 0.65 TA; 3.35 pH; 1,765 cases; 100% BF; 100% MF; released September 1994.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/1/2; My Score: 16.5 [86/100], fifth place)

7. **1993 La Crema**, "Grand Cuvee," California (\$20) – Medium-light golden yellow; pleasant, toasty, floral, tropical fruit aroma with oaky overtones; medium-full body; rich, ripe, tropical fruit flavors; slightly harsh on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Recommended. *13.7% alcohol; 0.60 TA; 3.44 pH; case production not disclosed; 100% BF; 100% MF; released February 1995.* (Group Score: 15.5, 1/1/1; My Score: 16 [84/100], seventh place)

8. **1993 Signorello**, Napa Valley (\$20) – Medium-light golden yellow; forward, floral, toasty, ripe tropical fruit aroma with hints of ripe mangos and butterscotch; medium-full body; forward, textured, toasty, woody flavors; slightly harsh on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 0.65 TA; 3.48 pH; 800 cases; 100% BF; 90% MF; released September 1994.* (Group Score: 15.4, 0/0/2; My Score: 16 [82/100], tenth place)

9. **1993 La Crema**, "Reserve," California (\$12) – Medium-light golden yellow; pleasant, toasty, lemony, woody, tropical fruit aroma; medium-full body; rich, smooth, easy to drink flavors with a hint of residual sugar; slightly harsh on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Standard to above-average quality. Recommended. *13.6% alcohol; 0.60 TA; 3.46 pH; case production not disclosed; 25% BF; 75% MF; released November 1994.* (Group Score: 15.3, 0/1/1; My Score: 16 [83/100], ninth place)

10. **1993 Meridian**, Santa Barbara County (\$20) – Medium-light golden yellow; pleasant, subdued, earthy, toasty, tropical fruit aroma; medium-full body; pleasant, austere, oaky, Chardonnay fruit flavors; somewhat hard on the finish; slightly lingering aftertaste. Standard to above-average quality. Recommended, though a bit disappointing relative to some of their previous vintages. *13.1% alcohol; 0.67 TA; 3.36 pH; case production not disclosed; 90% BF; 35% MF; to be released March 1995.* (Group Score: 15.3, 0/1/0; My Score: 16 [80/100], eleventh place)

11. **1993 Chalone Vineyard**, Chalone (\$26) – Medium-light golden yellow; subdued, toasty, ripe Chardonnay fruit aroma with overtones of vanilla and a hint of slightly musty cardboard; medium-full body; rich, toasty, oaky flavors which appear to have some tannin; slightly harsh on the finish with a hint of bitterness; lingering aftertaste. Standard to above-average quality. Recommended, though a disappointing showing considering its pedigree. It may show better with another year of aging. *13.9% alcohol; 0.57 TA; 3.35 pH; 10,150 cases; 100% BF; 100% MF; released September 1994.* (Group Score: 15.3, 0/0/0; My Score: 16 [84/100], eighth place)

12. **1993 Groth**, Napa Valley (\$13.50) – Medium-light golden yellow; assertive, toasty, woody aroma with slightly skunky, mercaptan-like overtones; medium-full body; slightly harsh, woody, toasty, lemony flavors with a tart finish; lingering aftertaste. Standard quality. Another disappointing showing. *13.9% alcohol; 0.55 TA; 3.43 pH; 11,500 cases; 30% BF; 30% MF; released September 1994.* (Group Score: 14.9, 0/0/0; My Score: 15.5 [78/100], twelfth place)

True Ranking [1, 2, 3] [4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11] [12]