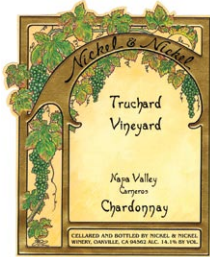


Nickel & Nickel
N&N
Single Vineyard Wines

TRUCHARD VINEYARD CHARDONNAY
2008

technical notes: **APPELLATION:** Carneros, Napa Valley

HARVEST DATES: September 11, 12 and 24, 2008



VARIETAL: 100% Chardonnay

FERMENTATION: Whole cluster pressed barrel fermented (no ML)

AGING: French oak barrels
(48% new, 52% once-used)

TIME: 9 months

RELEASE DATE: March 2010

FIRST VINTAGE: 2000

vineyard description: Truchard Vineyard lies in the heart of Carneros, prized for its rolling hills, sun exposure and cool, breezy conditions that allow long, even ripening. Nickel & Nickel makes wine from five select acres of this 270-acre vineyard, composed of volcanic ash and rock with a southwestern exposure. The growing season tends to be long in this cooler area, allowing for fully mature fruit at harvest.

harvest notes: Mother Nature was clearly in control of the 2008 growing season. A heavy storm started off the year with much-needed rain, but the rain came too fast to really penetrate deep into the soils. Nothing came after that, which led to another drought condition with only 60 percent normal rainfall. The longest frost season in decades followed and there was some damage in the low areas of the vineyard. During bloom in mid-May, temperatures rose to triple digits only then to be followed by a light rain. Crop loads were down 28 percent due to these conditions. A cool summer gave way to a hot September and the smaller crop ripened quickly in the heat. Although the growing conditions were quite different, this vineyard was harvested on the same day as last year.

sensory evaluation: Pineapple and minerals show through in the 2008 Truchard Vineyard Chardonnay with some fig, pear and apple mixed throughout. A juicy texture surrounds the fruit, while the vanilla and cedar from the French oak adds another layer of complexity. The creaminess on the palate, which is not a result of malolactic fermentation, but rather a characteristic that is inherent in the ripe fruit itself, carries the fruit into a long, flavorful finish.

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