

Smith-Madrone Vineyards and Winery

2007 CHARDONNAY

The 2007 vintage was both interesting and fun; more importantly the quality of the wine appears to be not only excellent, but maybe even great. Because of a heat spike in mid-August, the vintage started early. The first of the three wines from the vintage, our 2007 Riesling (now long gone), was excellent, and we think the 2007 Chardonnay is every bit as good. This Chardonnay is a lovely vibrant medium yellow, with a mixture of green apples, pears and lemons in the aroma. This is a very user friendly, hedonistic wine that is fun to drink, but at the same time is very serious. While the middle palate is soft, lush and round, the wine has an underlying backbone of acid which makes the wine go perfectly with food. We would be surprised if you didn't think this was one of our very best Chardonnays and maybe one of the best you've ever tasted.

Smith-Madrone's Chardonnay is grown at the top of Spring Mountain (1,900-foot elevation), west of St. Helena in the Napa Valley. The vines are planted on very steep slopes (up to 35% slope) in red volcanic soil. The vines receive only the rain that Mother Nature lets fall from the sky, forcing the vines to send their roots deep into the mountain soil in search of moisture. This centuries old method of farming wine grapes, known today as dry farming, creates a grape with intense flavor, structure, and finesse.

At Smith-Madrone our goal is to make artisanal wines which are distinctive and are an expression of both the vintage and us, as vintners, but above all else, are wines which bring pleasure to the senses.

Dan Berger's Vintage Experience, June 11, 2009:

"Terrific aroma of slate, bright citrus, pear and blossoms. One of the finest wines ever made by Charlie and Stu Smith."

AGE OF VINES:	36 years
APPELLATION:	NAPA VALLEY
SUB-APPELLATION:	SPRING MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
VARIETAL CONTENT:	100%
FERMENTATION:	100% barrel fermented
TIME IN OAK:	11 months
ALCOHOL:	14.3%
CASES :	754 cases
WINEMAKERS & WINEGROWERS:	Charles Smith & Stuart Smith