

KUMEU RIVER

2012 Maté's Vineyard Chardonnay



Maté's Vineyard

In 1990, Maté Brajkovich reworked the land at Kumeu River and planted a new vineyard of Chardonnay on the site of the family's original vineyard, purchased in 1944. The first harvest from these new vines was in March 1993, the year following Maté's death. The vineyard was named Maté's Vineyard in his honor, and the resulting single-vineyard wine was first released in November 1994 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Brajkovich family's arrival in Kumeu.

<i>Cultivation:</i>	Sustainable
<i>Size:</i>	3.2 hectares (7.9 acres)
<i>Vine Age:</i>	Planted 1990
<i>Clones:</i>	Mendoza
<i>Soil:</i>	Clay loam
<i>Elevation:</i>	Approximately 100 meters (328 feet)
<i>Exposure:</i>	North
<i>Training:</i>	Lyre
<i>Harvest Dates:</i>	March 27-29
<i>Yields:</i>	2.86 tons/acre
<i>Brix:</i>	21.5°

Technical Information

<i>Varietal Composition:</i>	100% Chardonnay
<i>Vinification:</i>	Whole-bunch pressed Wild yeast fermentation Fermented in French barriques (30% new) 100% malolactic fermentation Aged 11 months in French barriques (30% new, remainder up to 4 years) Aged 12 months in bottle prior to release
<i>Production:</i>	1,100 cases (12/750ml)
<i>Alcohol / TA / pH:</i>	13.5% / 5.5g/L / 3.32

Tasting Notes

This is the 20th vintage of the Maté's Vineyard Chardonnay produced from the low-yielding Mendoza clone. The clone's vine age and distinctive characteristics contribute to the wine's uniqueness. This vineyard has always displayed a lifted fruit aroma reminiscent of ripe pears, but with a mineral edge. The palate is always long and concentrated. The 2012 vintage is a wine that shows the complexity and concentration expected from this vineyard with great tautness and length on the palate.

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