

Domaine Eden

Technical notes

2010 Chardonnay Santa Cruz Mountains

Yield: 2.2 tons per acre
Harvest: September 22nd-October 7th
Numbers @ Harvest: 23.6° Brix
3.4 pH
8.5 grams acidity

Barrel Regimen - French 1/2 new; aged 11 months in barrel *sur-lie*;
95 barrels selected
Bottling - July 2011

1,977 cases produced

About Domaine Eden

Domaine Eden is a nearby mountaintop wine estate purchased by Mount Eden Vineyards in 2007. It was founded and built by the late Tom Mudd in 1983, and was initially planted with the Mount Eden clonal selections of Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon, which evolved to include Pinot Noir from various Dijon and California selections.

The viticulture at Domaine Eden is approached with the same level of naturalness and sustainability as Mount Eden's estate vineyards. The soils here, however, are different from the estate's Franciscan shale so even though Domaine Eden is a mere mile away "as the crow flies", the wines express more varietal fruit with expansive mid-palate flavors than the soil-driven minerality of Mount Eden estate wines.

With the differences in vineyard character, the property inspired a new wine brand, Domaine Eden, which focuses on Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from this special site and Bordeaux varieties from Mount Eden's larger home, the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Winemakers notes at release: Winter 2013

Making the style of Chardonnay we aspire to is becoming more challenging with the global warming trend. The model is a wine of subtlety and grace which provides pleasure for twenty years.

2010 gave us a year where the Chardonnay grew slowly and evenly with lots of sun but no hot days. Harvesting in October, a full three weeks later than usual, I knew this was going to be a special year given the cold summer.

After twenty months of aging in the bottle, the 2010 shows great structure and lees-soil nuance. Refined aromas of lanolin, lemon zest, anise and sage invite you in. Flavors of hazelnut, anise and lemon are embellished with a fundamental acidity. The finish is energetic and long.

The final blend was 55% from Mount Eden Estate and 45% from Domaine Eden. Aging potential is between five to fifteen years in a cool cellar.