



HANS HERZOG



HANS FAMILY ESTATE



Chardonnay

Established 1994 - Herzog, an artisan family winery, is acclaimed worldwide for handcrafted wines from their exceptional 'Grand Cru' organic vineyard. Its diverse terroir allows Hans to explore many grape varieties. His hands-on approach, intensive vineyard work and deliberately low yields produce wines rich in varietal character. Winemaking is purely natural and non-interventional, nothing added or extracted, letting the wines speak for themselves.

VINTAGE 2022 - 96/100 points by James Suckling!

A noble descendant of Pinot Noir and Gouais Blanc, Chardonnay is the grape behind the world's finest white Burgundies. With ideal vineyard sites, low yields, and careful cellar work, it can yield full-bodied, age-worthy wines of remarkable complexity. A warm, dry season, extended by a long Indian summer, allowed slow ripening, producing intensely concentrated yet vibrant berries for an extraordinary Chardonnay.

HANS' COMMENT

Destemmed and partially crushed (20% whole berries), the healthy grapes underwent an extended cold maceration to extract superb flavours. Gently pressed into used 500-litre French oak puncheons, fermentation occurred naturally with wild yeasts and no residual sugar. Regular lees stirring enhanced silkiness, complexity, and depth. A 20-month maturation in the same barrels allows the wine to develop further in bottle. No cold stabilization. Unfined (vegan) and lightly filtered to retain all goodness.

TASTING NOTES

This stately Chardonnay immediately impressed us - Batard-Montrachet came to mind! Depth and elegance meet purity and refinement. A floral nose leads into a silky texture with flavours of white peach, honeysuckle, and a hint of lemon, all in a concentrated profile. Finely balanced acidity imparts vibrant energy, ensuring the wine will age gracefully for at least a decade. A long, mineral-driven finish completes the experience. Tasted: 7 January 2026.

"The purity of this is really something, with a crystalline character of perfectly ripe apples, Meyer lemons and some stones and white flowers, yet so subtle and complex. The palate is bright with similar fruit to the nose, while the palate has integrated phenolics and crisp acidity that give this great complexity. A joy to drink now or bold."
James Suckling, Nov. 25.

TECHNICAL DATA

Variety	100% Chardonnay
Clones	Mendoza / Dijon clones
Rootstock	SO4 / 3309 / 101.14 / Riparia Gloire / Schwarzmann
Planted	1996
Soil	Shallow (<45 cm) on well drained sandy/gravelly soil and clay-sand soil, all from stony alluvium.
Plant density	5,500 vines/ha
Yield	2t/ha
Alcohol	14%
Ageing potential	15+ (if kept at constant temperature under 14 degrees Celsius)
Bottles produced	2,375 (198 cases)

FOOD MATCHING SUGGESTIONS

Perfect alongside fresh water salmon, dressed with zesty lemon, a hint of chilli oil, and generous fragrant coriander, a vibrant, aromatic pairing that brings out the wine's elegance and minerality.

"The Swiss couple make wonderful handmade reds and whites from an array of grapes, from Viognier to Nebbiolo. In fact, the barrel of Nebbiolo they make is like something from the best of Barolo. Unfortunately, they are tiny production."

James Suckling, October 2022 (Suckling is internationally regarded as one of the world's most influential wine critics.)

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