

MONTICELLO

CORLEY FAMILY VINEYARDS

1997 Corley Reserve Estate Grown Chardonnay

For many years, the Corley family has been hard at work growing estate grapes and producing the world-class wines of Monticello Vineyards in Napa Valley. Like many things in life, age and maturity are assets to be cherished and praised. Monticello Vineyards' **Corley Reserve Chardonnay** wines are unhurried examples of a great lineage of very limited production wines and represent a selection of the finest grapes grown on the estate owned vineyards.

Monticello Vineyards wines are subject to the very highest and most demanding standards of winemaking and the Corley Family only offers its name for the **Corley Reserve** designation on Monticello Vineyards' wines in vintages when the quality of the wine is deemed *exceedingly exceptional and age worthy*.

Release Date Feb 1, 2000 496 cases

Vineyard Location **Chardonnay – Napa Valley: Oak Knoll District**
Home Ranch Vineyard: Our 80-acre home ranch estate was established in 1970. The chardonnay used in this wine is from plantings done in the mid 1980s and the early 1990s.

Knollwood Vineyard: We established this vineyard in 1984. These chardonnay plantings were done in the early 1990s.

Harvest Dates / Brix Aug 16 - 31, 1997 at an average Brix of 23.9

Vintage 1997 vintage is regarded to be among the best of a series of excellent vintages in the last decade. The long, consistent, dry growing season resulted in extra hang-time adding an extra dose of physiologically ripeness resulting in extremely rich, deep texture and concentrated ripe berry fruit.

Fermentation Wild yeast fermentation in barrel over four weeks

Barrel Aging Sur lie aging with weekly stirring for 9 Months in French Oak – Vosges & Allier, 33% New, Medium Toast Plus

Alcohol 14.1%

Tasting Notes The 1997 Corley Reserve Estate Grown Chardonnay is ripe with citrus, orange blossom and lemon meringue flavors with layers of apple, pear, spice, honey and notes of toasty oak that stay with a long, full finish. This well-balanced wine is ready to be enjoyed now.