

NEUDORF

Neudorf Chardonnay 2005 - Moutere

If there was one Southern Hemisphere white wine I'd want to take to a desert island it would have to be Neudorf Chardonnay (Moutere). In my experience no others have stacked up as consistently well against the ultra-snazzy 10% chardonnays of Puligny - Montrachet in Burgundy.

The Dominion [Dr Paul White]



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Light gold with nuance of green. An integrated nose pinned with mineral "wet slate" notes alongside crem caramel, grapefruit, melon and an appealing sur-lees character.

A silken mouthfeel coats the richly fruited palate with an imbedded thread of linen-like phenolics drawing the whole package into focus. A complex, serious, cool climate Chardonnay, already looking classy in its youth.

Grapes were hand harvested from the Home Vineyard old vines Mendosa plantings with a smaller portion of the brighter fruited Mendosa grapes from our neighbouring Beuke Vineyard also making the cut. The parcels were in excellent condition; clean, ripe grapes from well balanced vines.

Handpicked in mid April at around 24.4 brix, 3.15 pH and 9.5 gl TA. The Beuke fruit was picked earlier in March with similar analysis.

All fruit was sorted in the vineyard and whole bunch pressed on a gentle four hour cycle. The unsettled juice was run to French oak barriques (30% new) where spontaneous fermentation with endogenous yeasts continued over a long period. The wine went through a complete malolactic fermentation and stayed on stirred lees until racked in February 2007 and returned to barrel.

It was then blended, gently cold stabilised, and bottled with minimal filtration at 3.12 pH, 7.5 gl TA, dry, 14.5% alc. 740 cases produced.

PRESS NOTES.

"When grapes are turned into wine by winemakers as talented as Tim and Judy Finn at Neudorf the results can be spectacular. Neudorf Chardonnay Moutere 2003 would fool many into thinking it was a fine white Burgundy."

Jancis Robinson MW - British Airways Business UK 2005

"Neudorf Moutere Chardonnay 2004.....a wine of restrained power that erupts with an explosion of flavour on first taste and continues to reverberate long after its swallowed. A true thoroughbred." **Karl du Fresne - Sunday Star Times Nov 2005**

"Supreme White Winner. Neudorf has once again asserted its status as perhaps the country's best Chardonnay maker with this classy wine. Taut and stylish Chardonnay with nutty, mealy characters interwoven with citrus, bready lees and mineral influences.

Very elegant with great length and cellaring potential 95 points." **Bob Campbell MW, NZ Home & Entertaining, Dec/Jan 2006**