

EXCELSIOR Chardonnay 2010



Varietal Blend	100% Chardonnay
Appellation	Robertson
Alcohol Content	14%
TA	6.4 g/l
pH	3.4
RS	5.8 g/l



Accolades	2009: 89 Points, Wine Enthusiast "Best Buy" 2008: Wine Enthusiast "Best Buy"
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VINEYARDS:

Excelsior's vineyards are characterized by limestone-rich calcareous clay soils, ideal for producing fine wine. The Chardonnay vines range in age from 4-16 years.

VINTAGE:

2010 was a unusual vintage, marked by low yields but extremely good quality. A very cool and windy spring resulted in less growth than usual. With crop size down 30% from a typical year, the grapes ripened very rapidly, leading to an earlier than normal harvest. This was one of the healthiest crops in history.

VINIFICATION AND MATURATION:

The grapes were hand harvested in the cool, early mornings, at ripeness levels of 23–24.5° Brix. 75% of the wine was fermented in stainless steel tanks to preserve fresh citrus flavors. The remaining 25% was fermented and aged on its lees in French oak, which lends a subtle toasty nuance. Both portions were aged on their lees for three months, resulting in greater body and depth.

TASTING NOTES:

This crisp, mouthwatering bottling is a blend of Excelsior's three best Chardonnay blocks. It displays lively flavors of green apple, citrus, and pineapple on a full, creamy palate. Hints of orange blossom and mineral and delicate toasty notes round out this versatile everyday sip, a consistent "Best Buy."