

D O N K E Y & G O A T

2011 *Improbable* Chardonnay, El Dorado

El Dorado is not where we expected to find Chardonnay to our liking but when Ron (Mansfield) offered us 35 year old Wente clone, un-grafted Chardonnay we could not resist. Such an “improbable” place to find our style of Chardonnay (minerality, acidity)! What fun to be so wrong and this wine will shine this summer as the temperatures heat up.

Appellation: El Dorado

Vineyard: Cloud

Varietal: Chardonnay

Clone: Unknown

Age: 30+ years

Elevation: 2,600 feet

Soil: Decomposed granite, red clay and loam

Yield: 2-3 tons/acre

Harvested: Sept 7

Pressed: Sept 7

Blend: 100% Chardonnay

Fermentation: Wild yeast, neutral oak

Barrel aging: 8 months in neutral FO barrels

Bottled: Unfiltered on May 22, 2012

Production: 170 cases

Release date: Summer 2012

Tasting Notes

Light yellow color. Aromas of lemon rind, quince and wet river stone that brighten up with air to offer spicy citrus and orchard fruit flavors and a touch of honeysuckle. This light bodied and dry chardonnay finishes with more citrus and persistent mineral notes.