

Talbott Vineyards

2002 Diamond T Estate Chardonnay

TALBOTT
VINEYARDS



ESTABLISHED 1982



GAYOT

WINE OF THE WEEK

“Little Vineyard, Big Wine”

“Robert Talbott’s Diamond T Estate is a small, 24-acre, tightly spaced vineyard on a 1,200-foot mountaintop located eight miles from California’s Carmel Bay. With an almost soil-free mixture of chalky shale, the growing conditions are less than ideal, but the small Diamond T harvests (less than one ton per acre) produce intensely flavored Chardonnay grapes that have been grown there since Robert Talbott first planted the Corton-Charlemagne clone 25 years ago. Distinctly warm growing conditions in 2002 created a vintage much riper than past Diamond T Chardonnays, showing more opulence and balance at this early stage of its release. Talbott suggests cellaring for three to five years, but it could be enjoyed now. The nose shows lemon, citrus zest, kiwi and ripe pear with green apple and a light toasty character indicative of the French oak barrels it was aged in for 14 months. There are round, ripe flavors of lemon meringue, fig, ripe peach and underlying mineral notes that come from the vineyard’s calcareous chalk soil.”

15 out of 20 (Very Good)

January 29, 2007

www.talbottvineyards.com