



2003 Talbott Diamond T Estate Chardonnay

Talbott Diamond T Estate is the home ranch of the Talbott family. The 1989 vintage of this Chardonnay was the first estate release from Talbott Vineyards. While Talbott Vineyards is now entirely an estate winery, Diamond T still remains the quintessential Talbott estate wine.

Vineyards

Diamond T Estate is very special to the Talbott family. Planted with the Corton-Charlemagne Chardonnay clone in 1982 by Robb Talbott, this 24-acre, tightly spaced vineyard grows in an almost soil-free mixture of chalky shale, on a 1,200-foot mountaintop, eight miles from Carmel Bay. Cool ocean fog, both in the morning and the evening, moderates the climate, leading to an extended growing season. Due to challenging growing conditions, crop yields are extremely small at Diamond T, with a typical yield of less than one ton per acre. The grapes from Diamond T are intensely flavored with astounding concentration. Diamond T is a testimony to Robb's determination to make the finest possible wines regardless of the personal cost or effort involved. Grapes grown on this vineyard are used to make the Diamond T Estate Chardonnay and the very limited Cuvée Audrey.

Winemaking:

- Light press directly to French oak barrels
- Inoculated with cultured yeast in barrel; barrel-fermented
- Barrel-aged 14 months sur lees, stirred twice a month
- Bottle-aged 18 months prior to release

Tasting Notes:

This inviting wine displays classic Diamond T golden straw color with a faint green hue. The nose offers intense aromas of lemon zest, with elements of ripe pear, allspice and a flinty minerality derived from the vineyard's calcareous chalk soil. On the palate, this complex wine continues to offer sophisticated mineral character intertwined with a lush medley of apple pie, pear, white peach and lemon meringue layers. Though still young, this wine has compelling structure and grip, and offers a long, lingering finish.

Composition **100% Chardonnay**

Technical Notes **Alcohol** **14.9 %**
pH **3.62**
Total acidity **0.72**

Release Date **May 1, 2007**

Suggested Retail Price **\$65.00/bottle (national)**