



2015 SANTA MARIA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

International Wine Report

2015 Presqu'ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“The Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay from Presqu'ile wines is **a fantastic showing in 2015**. There are beautiful aromas of lemon peel, crushed slate, flinty mineral, followed by hints of orange and acacia flower. It has lots of freshness with lively acidity and citrus through the palate into the bright finish. This has 5-7 years ahead of it, but drinking very well today. At the price this stands out as a value against others in its class.” **92 Points**

-Joe D'Angelo, May 2017

2014 SANTA MARIA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

The Wine Odyssey

“Presqu'ile Winery delivers its Burgundy vision”

“Presqu'ile is the California winery I've been waiting for. In 2007, Matt Murphy and his parents, Madison and Suzanne, purchased 200 acres in California's Santa Maria Valley, ending a year-long search of vineyard sites that extended from Oregon to Santa Barbara County. They named their new wine estate Presqu'ile (press-KEEL).

The **2014 Presqu'ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay** is as close to a Premier Cru Chassagne-Montrachet as you'll find in this country. Cronje coddled his estate grown chardonnay grapes for six months in stainless-steel tanks and a year in neutral French oak barrels. The wine's spring-water hue and elegant floral, vanilla scent are instant messages that this is not another California oaky, fruit-bomb chardonnay. Then, the white peach and pear flavors crossed my palate with their medium-full body and balancing acidity, confirming its Burgundy style. The 2014 Presqu'ile Chardonnay was perfect with sautéed skate, followed by a cheese plate of Camembert, Pont-l'Évêque and Wisconsin Ribolla.” **94 Points**.

-John Foy, December 2016

PinotFile

“Recently Tasted Notable California Chardonnays”

2014 Presqu'ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“An array of Dijon clones grown in **outstanding vineyards** such as Bien Nacido and Solomon Hills. Feral yeast primary fermentation and feral malolactic conversion. Aged 12 months on the lees in neutral French oak, 6 months in stainless steel. Light golden yellow color in the glass. The nose comes at you with hi-tone aromas of dried apricot, ocean breeze salinity and a complimentary butter note. Slightly viscous in the mouth, with flavors of green apple, citrus and white peach. A restrained style without oak intrusion, finishing with steely resolve.”

93 Points: Outstanding

-Rusty Gaffney, August 2016

Wine Enthusiast

“Light and clean aromas of Asian pear, pear blossoms, apple flesh and white flowers show on the nose of this bottling from a property on the far western edge of the maritime appellation. Bright acidity presents flavors of lime, green apples, Anjou pear flesh and a touch of kiwi, with savory sea-salt touches.” **93 Points: Excellent;**

Highly recommended

-Matt Kettmann, November 2016

Wine Review Online

“Today’s Featured Wine”

2014 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“Succulent and seductive, Presqu’ile’s Chardonnay is a true treasure for Chardonnay lovers who prefer a wine that’s beautifully balanced and food friendly. The equilibrium here is as daring and lovely as a Cirque de Soleil high wire performance, with no overt oak or overripe fruit to exaggerate flavors and textures. Instead, the fruit shines through in all its purity, deftly yet quietly enhanced by minerality and a lift of acidity.” **92 Points**

-Marguerite Thomas, December 2016

Wine Review Online

“The trend continues. **High acid, low alcohol Chardonnay is back, and here's another fine example of why.** Lemon crème, apple, pear and spice show crisply in aroma and flavor, finishing long, bright and food friendly. I'm thinking grilled halibut or sole will make a great match.” **91 Points**

-Rich Cook, August 2016

Vinous

“Proprietor Matt Murphy and his family have been absolutely relentless in their total pursuit of excellence. Presqu'ile is an estate to keep an eye on.”

2014 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“The 2014 Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley) is bright and nicely focused throughout. Lemon peel, white flowers and almond are front and center. This is a soft, open-knit, gracious style, especially for Santa Maria, where the Chardonnays are often a bit more pointed.” **90 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Antonio Galloni, September 2016

Vinography

“Near colorless in the glass with a faint shade of gold, this wine smells of banana and cold cream. In the mouth, bright and slightly sour green apple and citrus flavors mix with a butterscotch creamy aspect that is somewhat unexpected from this producer.” **Around 8.5 Points**

-Alder Yarrow, August 2016

Vivino

“10 wines we adore”

2014 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“Aged for 12 months in oak and six in stainless steel, this is the kind of Chardonnay you’ll want to get a grip on. Using six different Chardonnay clones for diverse expressiveness, it presents a balance between oak and acidity, along with guava, pineapple, lemon zest, and honeysuckle enhanced by a slight minerality from the sandy soils of Santa Barbara County. It lingers with sweet tropical notes and rounds out with a creamy finish.”

-Michael Cervin, January 2017

Santa Barbara News-Press

“Presqu’ile: From the ground up”

“When the Murphys, a Louisiana-based farming family, started looking around the West Coast for the ideal spot for growing world-class pinot noir, the Santa Maria Valley ended up in their bull's-eye. Presqu’ile (Creole for ‘almost an island’), is an unqualified success. The grapes tend to be picked earlier, resulting in lower alcohols, which, in turn, means better and more enjoyable drinkability. Now with a proven track record, Presqu’ile just may be **the template for future Santa Barbara County wine growing and winemaking.**”

2014 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“Bright citrusy lemon on the nose with hints of gun flint and minerality. In the mouth: lemon zest and lime peel, ripe yellow pear and yellow apple, as well as sea salt, botanicals and some minerality. If the sauvignon blanc is margarita-like, this chard is **complex and distinct** enough to be likened to a superb gin and tonic. With its bright flavors and good snap of acidity on the finish, it's an obvious choice for summertime imbibing on the patio.”

-Dennis Schaefer, August 2016

FSR Magazine

“Pineapple notes drive the flavor on this rich, vivacious Chardonnay from a highly regarded California region. One that is known for producing quality Chardonnay, via the fruit on this vine grown in western Santa Maria Valley’s sandy soil.”

-Kristine Hansen, September 2016

2013 SANTA MARIA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

Wine Advocate

“**An impressive white** from this estate, the 2013 Chardonnay has a classic feel in its apple, lemon curd, salty minerality and hint of rising bread aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, elegant and nicely layered, with good acidity and a clean, dry finish, drink it anytime over the coming 4-5 years. The elevage here was 12 months 15% new French oak. Drink 2015-2020.” **90 Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character. In short, these are terrific wines**

-Jeb Dunnuck, August 2015

Vinous

“The 2013 Chardonnay is soft, supple and open-knit in style. White orchard fruit, subtle spices and mint open up nicely in the glass. Restrained and cool, the 2013 is **an excellent choice for drinking over the next few years**. The partially blocked-malo style keeps the flavors bright. The 2013 (all Presqu’ile fruit) spent 12 months in French oak (15%) new, followed by 6 months in tank. 2015-2019.” **90 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Antonio Galloni, August 2015

Wine Review Online

“**I like Chardonnay that offers crisp and creamy in one package, and that's what we've got here** – apple, lemon, nut, a rich feel and a nice acid pop on the end that keeps things lively and bright. Low alcohol helps here as well. There's nothing ponderous or overt to wear you out. A fine solo quaff, or pair it with a roast chicken with herbs and spices – tarragon will make for a good foil for the flavors of the wine.” **90 Points**

-Rich Cook, February 2016

Wine Enthusiast

“Sea salt, lemon, lime, grapefruit blossoms and a touch of ripe nectarine give complex depth to the nose of this high-end winery’s larger-production white. The palate offers similar flavors, from brisk lime juice and sliced apples to warmer touches of sea-salt caramel.” **90 Points: Excellent; Highly recommended**

-Matt Kettmann, June 2016

PinotFile

Presqu’ile Winery

“**Winemaker Dieter Cronje is crafting exciting wines here.**”

2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“Moderate golden yellow color and clear in the glass. Bright aromas of lemon drops, yellow apple, nutty oak and a hint of salinity. A nicely composed, lighter-weight, and pleasing wine with flavors of lemon and honey presented on a slightly viscous platform.” **90 Points: Outstanding**

-Rusty Gaffney, January 2016

Wine Review Online

“Presqu’ile (pronounced press-KEEL) is **already making a name for itself** despite being founded less than a decade ago. This, their ‘basic’ Chardonnay (though hardly basic at all), is energetic and refined, finishing with uplifting, lip-smacking citrus notes instead of sweetness. The perfect touch of fruitiness balances the wine’s vibrancy. It would be an excellent choice for grilled swordfish.” **90 Points**

-Michael Apstein, May 2016

Houston Lifestyles & Homes

“From a SIP Certified Winery, this **elegant offering** was aged 12 months in mostly neutral oak (15 percent new) with 10 percent in stainless steel. Fermented with natural yeasts, it exhibits a lovely texture and noticeable weight. Try with fish cooked any way you like it, or for me, roasted red snapper topped with crabmeat!”

-Denman Moody, November 2015

Restaurant Wine

“Wines & Wineries to Watch”

“The 2013 vintage yielded stunning wines in California. Several Chardonnays that we especially like for both quality and value include those from **Presqu’ile** and ...”

2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“**Very fine quality, this is a full bodied, elegant Chardonnay** with firm acidity, fine character (pineapple, pear, lime, honey), superb balance, and a very long, persistent finish. **Exceptional quality.” 5 Stars: Exceptional quality for its type and style; a superstar within its price category. Merits an extra special effort to purchase. Very highly recommended**

-Ronn Wiegand, August 2015

The Daily Meal

“Presqu’ile Winery Impresses with Distinctive Santa Barbara Wines”

“Thrilling Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and more for your taste buds”

“In the world of wine, it’s always a thrill to discover an innovative producer who creates exciting wines. Such is the case for me with Presqu’ile Winery. I found the wines to be worth noting for anyone who loves well-made examples of those grapes Each wine is distinct while sharing similar characteristics. The wines are loaded with typicity that speaks of the variety in question. **There’s a sense of place in these wines** that screams of the cooler climate in which they’re grown. And more than anything else, **each wine has remarkable texture and impressive mouthfeel** that ties the grapes together like an invisible connective tissue. The next time I’m anywhere near the winery, I’ll make a beeline for Presqu’ile. In the meantime, I’ll keep drinking its beautiful wines; you should too!”

2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“All of the fruit (100 percent) chardonnay came from their estate vineyard. Five clones of chardonnay were used. Aging took place over 12 months in French oak (15 percent new) and six months in stainless steel. Hints of crème fraiche and lemon curd are dominant on the lovely nose of this Chardonnay. The palate is stuffed with glorious amounts of fresh orchard fruit and corresponding spice notes. Marzipan and Linzer tart characteristics join continued bits of pear and apple on the above average finish. **The purity of fruit from the first whiff to the last sip of this chardonnay is impressive to say the least.”**

-Gabe Sasso, April 2016

The Essence of Wine

“Grapefruit”

“This dazzle of acid and flavor finds its most common analogue in white wines, whose flavors sometimes perfectly evoke a bite of bright pink sunshine. Rieslings are common culprits for providing a mouthful of grapefruit, but many other wines can also evoke its many flavors – zest, pith, or juice. But no matter how it got there, finding a bit of grapefruit in your glass will never be a bad thing.”

Wine recommendations: 2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

-Alder Yarrow, January 2015

Wine Review Online

“**A very impressive California Chardonnay.** Though full of rich ripe flavor, the wine also exhibits impressive balance, without any sort of excess. There’s not too much oak or vanilla or butter. Instead, **everything seems just right.**”

-Paul Lukacs and Marguerite Thomas, December 2015

Wine Review Online

“The Expression of a Place”

“Presqu’ile is a fairly new winery in the Santa Maria Valley that I had not been familiar with until I tasted through its current releases. Run by two generations of the Murphy family, the operation features a 73-acre vineyard estate just 16 miles from the Pacific Ocean, at altitudes from 700 to 1000 feet. The transverse mountain ranges that border the Santa Maria Valley carry cool maritime weather inward and enable the Murphys’ goal of growing cool-climate Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc... **the wines show a beautiful combination of subtlety, textural richness, flavor complexity and unmistakable varietal character.**

Other current releases are the **2013 Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay** and 2013 Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir, both **very good wines and worth trying.**”

-Mary Ewing-Mulligan, December 2015

JancisRobinson.com

“Cool, leesy and very citrus – grapefruit. Super refreshing. Pretty crisp on the end with a hint of grapefruit-peel bitterness. Drink 2015-2018” **16.5/20 Points: Distinguished**

-Jancis Robinson, March 2016

D Magazine

“What to Drink Now: Chardonnay”

2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay

“In the midst of Santa Barbara County lies **Santa Maria Valley producing elevated, elegant Chardonnay and Pinot Noir wines with character and exceptional taste.** This is the home the Bien Nacido Vineyard, much loved among Pinot Noir drinkers. It is also the home of the 73 acre Presqu’ile Vineyard producing a selection of distinct and highly regarded wines. Various Total Wine and More stores carry the **Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay** from fruit grown in vineyards throughout the western part of the region, and made melding both stainless steel and barrel fermentation with lees (yeasts) stirring, to create a sweet cream, caramel apple and lemon zest filled wine.”

-Hayley Hamilton Cogill, March 2016

2012 SANTA MARIA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

Wine Advocate

“The 2012 Chardonnay Santa Maria Valley is also **outstanding.** Coming all from their estate Presqu’ile Vineyard, it offers classy golden apple, white flowers, honeysuckle and hints of brioche to go with a medium-bodied, **balance, pure and elegant style** on the palate. Aged 17 months in all neutral French oak, it should drink nicely for 2-3 years.” **90 Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character. In short, these are terrific wines**

-Jeb Dunnuck, August 2014