

New Releases: Sojourn Cellars Chardonnays

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Sojourn Cellars is a Sonoma producer known mostly for their fruit-forward yet site-differentiated *Pinot Noirs*. But in the past couple years they've release Chardonnays for the first time, sourced from several of the same vineyards where their Pinots come from. I tasted 3 of Sojourn's Chardonnays from the highly acclaimed 2012 vintage.

Near-ideal conditions led to abundant crops. In some cases, I've seen this result in thin wines lacking vibrance, but top producers effectively managed yield levels to produce concentrated wines with finesse and elegance. These 2012 Chardonnays from Sojourn are an example of that. Like with the Sojourn Pinot Noir, wines produced from each vineyard show enjoyably distinct characteristics.

As someone who enjoys a lot of Sojourn Pinot Noir I can say I liked these Chardonnays quite a bit.

Here are my notes...

2012 Sojourn Durell Vineyard Chardonnay

91/100 WWP: Outstanding

14.3% Alcohol

274 Cases Produced

\$48 Release Price

Brilliant light golden color with a tinge of green and appealing clarity especially considered it was bottled unfined. There's an attractive bright citrus note on the nose that transitions brilliantly to the palate with a soft edges and a hint of vanilla and a satisfying finish. As compared to the 2012 Campbell Ranch, the Durell lacks the feral notes present in the Campbell and is fresher and more appealing to me overall.

2012 Sojourn Sangiacomo Vineyard Chardonnay

90/100 WWP: Outstanding

14.1% Alcohol

300 Cases Produced

\$45 Release Price

Visually, this is spun gold with a hint of verde. Aromatically clean with citrus and tropical notes. Medium-full bodied. Ripe pears, crunchy apples, and vanilla notes with a mouth-filling finish. Rich yet pure. Nice stuff.