

FOXEN Chardonnay Block UU

2013 Chardonnay, Block UU - Bien Nacido Vineyard

This wine is the second of three successive phenomenal vintages. The 2013 is particularly exceptional. The grapes were casually picked over a ten-day period (from September 23rd to October 3rd), which allowed us to capture the incremental flavor developments that occurred during that time. We ended up with six lots of juice that became eight different fermentation lots in the barrels. It was amazing to taste and compare each lot, as they all had something unique to bring to the final assembly of the finished wine.

The wine displays tropical aromas of pink grapefruit and lime peel, as well as wet sage leaves. Flavors of guava, grapefruit oil, and Meyer lemon carry long on the palate and are wrapped in vibrant acidity. There is a lot of positive tension and strait-laced complexity in this Chardonnay.

Billy found that it matched beautifully with a Rock Shrimp tempura with citrus zest tartar sauce or asparagus with a jalapeno-lime hollandaise.

Drinking window: now through 2018.

* 90-92 Points - Wine Advocate

* 91-93 Points - Antonio Galloni, VinoUS

About Foxen:

Bill Wathen and Dick Doré have been making wine together since 1985, when they founded Foxen Winery & Vineyard at the historic Rancho Tinaquaic in Northern Santa Barbara County. Since that time their dedication has remained the same: the creation of small production, sustainably-farmed, vineyard-focused wines using a straightforward and minimalist approach to winemaking.

The winery is named in memory of William Benjamin Foxen, and English sea captain and Dick's great-great grandfather. Benjamin Foxen came to Santa Barbara in the early 1800's and purchased the historic Rancho Tinaquaic in 1837 with a Mexican Land Grant that totaled nearly 9000 acres, that comprised most of what is now known as Foxen Canyon. Captain Foxen adopted the distinctive anchor as his ranch cattle brand, which became the trademark of the Foxen Vineyard & Winery. We are proud that we have made our home on the now 2000-acre Rancho Tinaquaic, which remains in family hands.

In 2009 we completed our new solar-powered winery and tasting room, and our beloved historic "Shack" was renamed foxen 7200, and focuses on our Bordeaux and Italian-style wines under a newly designed label. Our Burgundy and Rhône-style wines are showcased at our new location just up the road.

2014 marks the 30th harvest for the Foxen Boys.

