

Bouchard Finlayson Missionvale Chardonnay 2006

An intense and concentrated bottling. Citrus and apple notes finishing with crisp acidity and excellent length. Nutty with some hazelnut, fig and quince-ike character.

variety : Chardonnay | 100% Chardonnay

winery : Bouchard Finlayson Boutique Vineyard

winemaker : Peter Finlayson

wine of origin : Hemel-en-Aarde Valley

analysis : alc : 12.8 % vol rs : 1.1 g/l pH : 3.24 ta : 6.1 g/l

type : White **style :** Dry **body :** Full **taste :** Fruity **wooded**

pack : Bottle **size :** 750ml **closure :** Cork

2008 Wine Spectator - 90 points

This is the eleventh edition of our Missionvale label. It is perhaps the appropriate time to reflect on the background to this name.

A mission hospital established 1822 on our property is arguably the oldest listed building in the greater Hermanus area. This hospital or possibly hospice was erected by German missionary Peter Leitner, it was described as a leper colony "â€" which much later moved to Robben Island. Vintage 2005 was particularly dry throughout the Cape Winelands but this was not entirely true for our small appellation near the village of Hermanus. Timeous rains managed to retain excellent fruit quality and support an impressive vintage.

in the vineyard : The 2006 growing season was cool with the added blessing of lower than usual temperatures between December and February. It was predicted soon after harvest that the highlight of 2006 would be the Chardonnay. The crop was small but showed very good natural pH and fruit acidity levels. Harvesting was a protracted affair all over a three week period representing parcels from three different Domain sites.

about the harvest: While the village of Hermanus and the surrounding waters of Walker Bay are famous for the visiting Southern Right whales, I believe it is simply a matter of time before Walker Bay becomes equally famous for its superb Chardonnays!

The Missionvale Chardonnay has long been a wine of intense pride. Harvesting was a protracted affair all over a three week period representing parcels from three different Domain sites.



Bouchard Finlayson Boutique Vineyard

Hermanus

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