

KUMEU RIVER

Estate Chardonnay Continues Wine Spectator Winning Streak

2010 Chardonnay	<i>90 points:</i> "...mix of floral notes and toasty aromatics...texture is silky smooth, with refreshing, zingy acidity."
2009 Chardonnay	<i>91 points:</i> "Rich and deep...smooth texture and vibrant acidity. The aromatics are the star here..."
2008 Chardonnay	<i>92 points, Top 100 Wines of the Year:</i> "A benchmark for New Zealand Chardonnay..."
2007 Chardonnay	<i>92 points, Top 100 Wines of the Year:</i> "New Zealand's iconic producer of Chardonnay grows its wines near Auckland, rather than the more celebrated, cooler regions to the south, yet the wines have tremendous vibrancy..."
2006 Chardonnay	<i>90 points:</i> "Generous cedary oak...Citrusy acidity keeps this fresh with mineral, stone and floral tones..."
2005 Chardonnay	<i>89 points:</i> "Streamlined and intense...Stone, mineral and vibrant citrus nuances harmonize deftly in the finish."
2004 Chardonnay	<i>92 points:</i> "With distinct mineral and floral aromas, this feels very Burgundian..."
2003 Chardonnay	<i>91 points:</i> "...a very Burgundian profile...beautiful balance. A stylish wine with refinement and plenty of flavor."
2002 Chardonnay	<i>92 points:</i> "...Beautifully put together..."
2001 Chardonnay	<i>93 points, Highly Recommended:</i> "A many-faceted Chardonnay, impressive for its clarity and superb balance.. spicy honey weaving through rich pear and delicately smoky flavors, which echo impressively on the long finish."
2000 Chardonnay	<i>93 points, Highly Recommended:</i> "Crisp and vibrant, a tightly wound bud holding pineapple, pear and lemon flavors that will burst free after some time in the bottle..."
1999 Chardonnay	<i>92 points:</i> "Disarmingly fresh and open...refined and elegant, with flavors that linger purely."
1998 Chardonnay	<i>91 points:</i> "Bright and refreshing, remarkably lively...Shows restraint (for a KR wine), but the flavors linger long."
1997 Chardonnay	<i>90 points:</i> "Crisp, bright and generous...hints of vanilla and lemon on the lively finish."
1996 Chardonnay	<i>92 points:</i> "Ripe flavors are just the beginning in this mouthfilling, buttery beauty. Sleek in style, this white wraps its generous peach, pear and honey flavors into a jazzy package that balances everything with delicate acidity."
1995 Chardonnay	<i>90 points:</i> "A serious, distinctive wine..."
1994 Chardonnay	<i>93 points, #6 in Top 100 Wines of the Year:</i> "Big, rich and powerful. Layered with buttery, spicy pear, honey and hazelnut flavors that fold together luxuriously on a long finish. A most distinctive wine."
1993 Chardonnay	<i>92 points, Top 100 Wines of the Year:</i> "Smooth, round and spicy, a mouthful of generous apple, tropical fruit, vanilla and citrus flavors singing harmoniously on the finish — this tells a story in the glass."
1992 Chardonnay	<i>92 points, Top 100 Wines of the Year:</i> "Big and rich, putting it all together: opulent, smoky oak; firm, fresh acidity; and intense apple and melon flavors. Luscious. Also rated outstanding in a previous tasting."
1991 Chardonnay	<i>90 points, Top 100 Wines of the Year:</i> "This full-flavored, full-bodied Chardonnay wraps layers of vanilla and butterscotch around lively pear and lemon flavors that give it fine acidity and balance. The finish is long and tasty."