

TALBOTT



VINEYARDS

CHICAGO **SUN-TIMES**

“California Chardonnays that take some inspiration from France”

“Monterey, California, and the surrounding area is known for its scenic coastline, recreational parks and Big Sur, along with endless boutiques, cafes and art galleries. Most are unaware **this area is also home to some world-class wineries that have an affinity for producing finely tuned Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.** This windswept county incorporates the Salinas Valley and part of Carmel Valley, which funnel fog from the bay, creating a cool, moderate daytime temperature that slowly ripens grapes to enhance their balance and mouthwatering freshness.

One of the long-standing family wineries in this region is Talbott Vineyards. Robb Talbott planted his roots in Monterey in 1948 after moving from Connecticut with his parents, Audrey and Robert. Audrey designed hand-sewn silk ties, while his father sold them to upscale shops along the coast. The luxury neckwear business flourished and became the acclaimed Robert Talbott Tie Co.

Robb joined the family business after returning from college, but as a nature lover, he preferred to work the land.

He chose to farm a chalky 24-acre parcel of land atop a mountain in Monterey for grape growing, naming it Diamond T Vineyard. His early travels with his family through Burgundy, France, gave his palate an indelible impression of Chardonnay, and he planted this vineyard to the Corton Charlemagne Chardonnay clone.

Talbott Vineyards came into existence in 1982 and later expanded with the 1994 purchase of the Sleepy Hollow Vineyard in the Santa Lucia Highlands. As his father’s company reflected a quality-driven and consistent product, Robb has adhered to the same standards. He believes in ‘offering value at all price points,’ introducing several tiers of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Each tier is based on ‘intensity of fruit and length of finish’ with a distinct singular personality.”

2013 Talbott Chardonnay, Sleepy Hollow Vineyard

“This Chardonnay is all estate fruit from the Sleepy Hollow Vineyards in the Santa Lucia Highlands. It is all barrel fermented and aged in 1/3 new French Oak. The light gold crystalline color is held together with pineapple, mango and honeyed spices. The inner richness and layer of cream in this wine make it attractive to the novice and also the most discerning Chardonnay drinker.”

2013 Talbott Chardonnay, Diamond T Vineyard

“This Chardonnay is sourced from the original mountaintop vineyard planted by Robb Talbott in 1982. There are tropical overtones to this medium-bodied, concentrated wine with a delicate nuttiness and creamy vanilla overtones. It has an expansive middle that is reminiscent of a classic white Burgundy. The Diamond T is superbly designed with lots of finesse and an underlying acidity that keeps everything in balance.”

2013 Talbott Chardonnay, Kali Hart

“This white is 100 percent estate fruit from Talbott’s Monterey vineyards. It is a lean and crisp, mineral-driven wine with bright pear and lemon meringue freshness. The fruit is pure and long in the back of the mouth. This vibrant Chardonnay grows on you with each sip and is never tiring.”