

I. Brand & Family Melon de Bourgogne Chalone

Le P'tit Paysan (I. Brand)

United States - California - Monterey

The Graff Family began working in Chalone in the early 60s, with Dick Graff as the driving force behind the Chalone Vineyard, building, with the support of his brothers and a gaggle of stockholders, the original 1919 planting to international fame. After selling the Chalone group and Dick's untimely death in a plane crash, the family's land holdings have shrunk progressively to just this 160 acre parcel, owned by Dave Graff and his children. On those 160 acres is a small 3 acre vineyard planted in 1989 to Syrah, Mourvèdre and Melon de Bourgogne. The site has depleted, granitic soils. The Melon de Bourgogne in Chalone was originally thought to be Pinot Blanc. Dick Graff distributed cuttings of these vines as far as Oregon. In the 1970s, a visiting ampelographer correctly identified the vines as Melon de Bourgogne. These vines were selected from the older 'Pinot Blanc' planting and can legally be labeled as either (but we like accuracy).

The wine comes from a tiny parcel of 30+ year old Melon planted on depleted granitic soils. The warm days and cold nights of the Chalone AVA produce a perfect balance of concentration and acidity, which Ian Brand amplifies with a few days of skin contact. The pure aromas of light peach, pear and gardenia are slightly toasty on the nose. The palate is defined by lemon-skin and grapefruit-pith grip, with a touch of baked apple in the midpalate.



Specifications

Appellation	Monterey
Wine Type	White
Varietals	Melon de Bourgogne
Age of Vines	32 years old
Soil type	depleted, granitic soil
Vinification	Picked in mid August at 21.5 brix. The grapes spend 5 days in skin contact then are pressed and barrel fermented in neutral oak. Full malolactic fermentation and lees ageing for 9 months before bottling.
Production	78 (9-liter cases)
Pairings	white fish, hard cheese

Codes, Weights and Measures

UPC	7 84585 02845 0
Units/Case	12
Unit Size	750 mL
Container	bottle
SCC	1 07 84585 02845 7
Case Weight	38
Cases/Pallet	56

Layers/Pallet	14
ABV	12.80%
SRP	\$ 32.50 USD 750mL Bottle