SIXTO

2021 SIXTO ROZA HILLS CHARDONNAY

TASTING NOTES BY WINEMAKER CHARLES SMITH

Opulent is the first to come to mind yet also restrained. A gentle release of peach, hazelnut and fresh sweet cream continuing forever with toasted spices, roasted lemon, shortbread and a focused essence of chalk. Silky to the core. Lavish. Get lost in the glass for a moment, while striving to seek out the memory of “brilliance.”



VINTAGE NOTES

2021 was one of the warmest vintages to date in Washington. It started with an early bud break due to nice weather and moderate temperatures. June was one of the warmest in recorded history, resulting in very small berries. Veraison and the beginning of the ripening season were nice and even, creating a beautiful, extended ripening season that led to excellent fruit with incredible concentration. Overall, 2021 is a distinct and lovely vintage and produced fantastic wines to enjoy now and into the future.

CURRENT SCORES

94 Points, *Anthony Mueller–Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate (v2020)*

“Rich, round and focused ... impressive with layers of spicy oak essence that waft with white and yellow flowers over a delightfully dusty core. Full-bodied and with elevated alcohol of 14.5%, the wine reveals a balanced and mineral-driven expression on the palate, exposing a generously textured and complex mouthfeel and ends with a showy but boozy finish. It will likely please lovers of New World, generously structured Chardonnay.”

94 Points, *James Suckling (v2020)*

“Attractive aromas of peaches, grilled pineapple, pastry crust, young walnuts and salted butter. Full and layered with a creamy, textural, mouth-feel and delicious stone-fruit character. It’s crunchy and lively, but firm and structured at the same time. Plush and fruity finish with some chalkiness. Drink or hold.”

93+ Points, *Eric Guido–Vinous (v2020)*

“A wine of contrasts, the 2020 Chardonnay Roza Hills is spicy and rich in the glass with a burst of crushed green apples, flinty stone and sage. This splashes across the palate with ripe orchard fruits and an inner custardy richness, as sour citrus nuances add balance toward the close. Wet stone and exotic spices linger throughout, as young peach and crushed almond notes slowly taper off. This is transporting me to Burgundy.”

VINEYARD

Roza Hills Vineyard (100%)

At an elevation of 1350 feet, Roza Hills Vineyard is located in a southern sloping bowl, on the south side of the Rattlesnake Hills. Planted in 1977, the majority of the vines are located in soils of loamy silt and chalk, with broken basalt chunks interspersed.

WINEMAKING

Varietal Breakdown: 100% Chardonnay

Appellation: Washington State

Production: 2.2 tons per acre, native yeast, 100% whole cluster press, fermentation in 50% Concrete tank and 50% French Oak Puncheon | 18 months barrel-aged on lees in 30% new French oak puncheons | 351 cases

Wine Analysis: 5.2 g/L titratable acidity, 3.62 pH, 14.5% alcohol, no residual sugar

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