

HANDLEY CELLARS

Anderson Valley

www.handleycellars.com



Milla Handley (right) & co-winemaker Kristen Barnhiesel



Vintner Select

6215 Hi-Tek Court
Mason, OH 45040
800-597-1491
fax 513-229-3633
www.vintnerselect.com

United States of America

CALIFORNIA
Mendocino

OVERVIEW

The bucolic and temperamental dale known as Anderson Valley slopes up over the final stretch of the Navarro River's northwesterly run to the Pacific Ocean. In this setting, Milla Handley and a handful of other enterprising winegrowers—seeking to escape the strictures of expectation that come with making wine in Napa or Sonoma—turned their energies to producing world-class wines from a wide variety of raw materials. Handley was not only in the vanguard of growers to Anderson Valley, but also in the van of female winery owner/winemakers, and by the time Champagne giant Louis Roederer released its first wines from their Anderson Valley estate, she was firmly established as one of the pillars of fine wine in California. Her relentless pursuit of quality and balance allows her to capture the essences of this singular and deservedly lauded region.

Varieties:

White: Chardonnay, Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Viognier

Red: Pinot Noir, Syrah, Zinfandel

Total Acreage: 49 acres

Average Production: 18,000 cases

VINEYARD/CELLAR PRACTICES

- 30-acre estate vineyard certified organic; 19-acres in Dry Creek sustainably farmed
- Partial whole-cluster fermentation of Chards & Viognier, the others are de-stemmed
- Flexible cellar regimen: wines are crafted respecting vintage-specific needs of fruit

WINES

Chardonnay Handley Vineyard, Dry Creek Valley

A svelte, though not inflexible Chardonnay with an unusually complex aroma haunted by oranges and cocoa, and backed-up by crisp flavors of citrus, marmalade, and spices.

Chardonnay Estate Vineyard, Anderson Valley

A multi-dimensional, barrel-fermented Chardonnay with a gracefully creamy texture, moody flavors of peaches and oatmeal, and a long, finish with a heady zip. As is also true for the Dry Creek Chard, this allows more room for food-pairing than most do Chardonnays.

Gewürztraminer, Anderson Valley

One of Handley's most sought-after wines, this shining, full-bodied Gewürz is the poster-child for Anderson Valley's love-affair with the grapes of Alsace. High-toned & not backed by shades of bitterness, it's a dry Gewürz, so it is marvelously versatile at the table.

Pinot Gris, Anderson Valley

Another robust cuvée informed by Alsatian cousins: it has conspicuously broad & floral aromas with a creamy texture that is a gentle resonator for a lavish and taut fruit character dominated by white peaches and baking spices.

Riesling, Mendocino County

This striking Riesling (a 2-to-1 blend of McFadden Vineyard (in Potter Valley) and Cole Ranch), Handley's final homage to the dry whites of Alsace, stands among the best Rieslings made in the U.S. Edgy with a grand sweep of flavor recalling green mangos, lemongrass, & earl grey.

Pinot Noir, Anderson Valley

Anderson Valley's benevolence imbues this silky cuvée with heavenly aromas of lavender and blueberries that elevate the basic nuances of chocolate-covered cherries with such deft balance that it calls to mind the ethereal Pinot Noirs of Austria's Burgenland, another rare site in which Pinot Noir can offer mysteries as ineffable & compelling as those found in Burgundy.

ACCOLADES

Handley 2007 Chardonnay Estate Vineyard Anderson Valley

"Sweet and juicy first aromas of Red Delicious Apples framed by creamy oak and a frontal, slightly candied note are joined in the nose by a crisper, green apple scent as well. And, it is this latter quality that becomes the overarching theme in the wine's flavors and finish where tangy acids join the appley fruit to form a tasty yet somewhat angular wine. Grilled seafood dishes would be a fine mate to this zesty effort, whose price adds to its charms."

—*Connoisseur's Guide*, 1/10