

# PRESQU'ILE

**‘Quite simply the most exciting new winery I've come across in several years. It's hard to overstate just how remarkable these wines are and the statement they make.’ – Alder Yarrow, Vinography**

**‘Proprietor Matt Murphy and his family have been absolutely relentless in their total pursuit of excellence. Presqu’ile is an estate to keep an eye on.’ – Antonio Galloni, Vinous**

**Year Founded: 2007**

**Region: Santa Maria, California**

**Owners: The Murphy family**

**Winemaker: Dieter Cronje, assistant winemaker Mike Chase and Jeremy Seysess, owner of famed Burgundy estate Domaine Dujac, as consulting winemaker.**

**Known for: Being one of the top producers in the Santa Maria Valley.**

**Cool Fact: Presqu’ile (pronounced PRES-KEEL) means ‘almost an island’ in Creole. It is the name of the Murphy family’s beloved Gulf Coast gathering place that was lost in Hurricane Katrina.**

**-Organic, Sustainable-**

In 2007, after an extensive search that spanned the West Coast of the United States, the Murphy family acquired an ideal unplanted 200-acre property in the hills of the Santa Maria Valley. Over the next two years, the Murphys, along with Santa Barbara County Vineyard Manager Jim Stollberg and Winemaker Dieter Cronje, meticulously planned the design of the Presqu’ile Vineyard with an emphasis



on diversity. To achieve their vision, they mapped the site's deep sandy soils, distinct airflows, patterns of sunlight, hillside angles and elevations. With the insights derived from these measurements, they planted the vineyard to maximize the diversity of row directions, spacing, clones and rootstocks. To further augment this diversity with older vines, Presqu’ile also acquired an adjacent 11-acre parcel of Clone 777 and 667 Pinot Noir vines planted in 2001. Collectively, the result is a winemaker's dream, offering a treasure trove of individual blocks and sections, allowing Dieter to craft complex and layered small-lot wines. The Vineyard has always been certified sustainable but in the beginning of the 2014 growing season, organic trials began on half of the Pinot Noir and Chardonnay acreage. Beginning in the 2018 growing season, the entire vineyard would be farmed under organic protocols although not under certification. In 2016, Fruili pruning ninja, Marco Simonit, was hired to teach his ways. The idea was to minimize large cuts on the vines when pruning to encourage efficient sap flow and nutrient transfer within the vine which has already yielded huge improvement in the quality and consistency of canes in the vineyard, less shoot thinning in May and even more cluster ripening leading up to harvest.



### 2023 Chardonnay, Santa Barbara County

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Vineyards: North Canyon (70%) Whitehawk (25%) Cottonwood (10%) Tunnel (5%)

Soil: Garey series, Sandy Loam, Sand

Elevage: 6 months in Neutral French Oak and Stainless Steel

Our Santa Barbara sets the foundation for how we vinify whites at Presqu'ile. This bright and refreshing wine is loaded with flavors of Meyer lemon, citrus peel, crushed white flowers, and saline. Pair this bottle with cheese boards, creamy pasta dishes, or a variety of grilled fish. **Sustainable!**

**92 Points – Vinous** – *“Fabulous. Rich and creamy, it offers tons of immediacy. Apricot, chamomile, lemon confit and bright tropical notes all run through this super-expressive Chardonnay. Best of all, this is a superb value.”*

**92 Points – Robert Parker** - *“Powerful aromas of citrus oil and white peach fill in an otherwise bright, focused nose. The palate is deliciously succulent, concluding with a vibrant, pure finish with just enough creamy breadth. An impressive introduction to the solid winemaking at Presqu'ile.”*



### 2021/2022 Chardonnay, Presqu'ile Vineyard

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Vineyards: 100% Presqu'ile

Soil: Garey series, Sandy Loam

Elevage: 11 months Stockinger (70%) and French Oak (30%, 5% new)

Our Estate Chardonnay has something to offer every palate preference. This textured, wine is nuanced with flavors of white peach, apple, toast, and salty sea air. Tangy and palate-coating, this wine is perfect for pairing with roasted poultry, lobster rolls, or cream-based pasta sauces. **Sustainable, Organic!**

**94 Points – '21 Vinous** – *“One of the best wines I have tasted here in some time. It marries depth, textural resonance and energy in style. Lemon peel, almond, dried flowers and chamomile are some of the many notes that develop in the glass. I love the energy and focus here. There's plenty of the savoriness that is such a Presqu'ile signature, but not to the point of being overpowering.”*

**93 Points - '21 Wine Enthusiast** - *“Fresh and crisp aromas of lime skin and margarita spice are tightly wound on the nose of this bottling. The palate is acid driven and taut in texture, showing brisk citrus flavors that dance into a lightly brined finish.”*



## 2023 Pinot Noir, Santa Barbara County

Vineyards: Presqu'ile (8%), North Canyon (40%), Kick On (40%) , Full Circle (12%)

Soil: Garey series, Sandy Loam, Sand

Elevage: 11 months in neutral French oak and 6 months in stainless steel

Provides a beautiful look into just how well this grape thrives in the region's soils. 2023 is looking to be one of the best vintages Santa Barbara County has ever seen. With an unusually cold and wet beginning to the year and a long, mild growing season that extended up to a full month behind our normal harvest timing, the grapes enjoyed extra hang time and the opportunity to develop gradually. This led to grapes with beautiful concentration, balance, and vibrant acidity. Lifted notes of Bing cherries, rose hips, dried orange rind, and sandalwood dominate the wine's earth-driven palate. Pair with game, veggie burgers, or roasted chicken. **Sustainable!**

**91 Points – '22 Wine Enthusiast** – *“Offers strawberry, red plum and graham cracker aromas alongside a rusty minerality. The palate is both zippy and ripe, with cherry flavors that are cut by a fiery acidity.”*



## 2022 Pinot Noir, Presqu'ile Vineyard

Vineyards: 100% Presqu'ile

Soil: Sandy Loam

Elevage: 11 months French Oak (5% new) followed by 6 months in stainless steel.

Our Presqu'ile Estate Pinot Noir is produced entirely from 100% estate-grown, hand-harvested, and destemmed fruit. Silky flavors of bright red berries, ripe cherries, orange zest, sage, and mint mesh harmoniously together on the palate and lead to a smooth, long lasting finish. Serve at cellar temperature with lentils, crockpot stews, or mushroom-based sauces. **Organic!**

**94 Points – '21 Vinous** – *“Plump, juicy and quite expressive. In 2021, the Presqu'ile is decidedly fruity, with fewer of the savory notes that are often found in wines from this site. The move away from stems in this wine continues to pay off handsomely.”*



## 2022 Syrah, Santa Barbara County

Vineyards: 95% Whitehawk Vineyard, 5% Full Circle Vineyard

Soil: Sandy Loam

The 2022 growing season began with a rather windy spring resulting in slightly below average fruit set but good size on the clusters. However, the berries remained very small through veraison and consequently, the crop was miniscule. June, July and August saw some of the heaviest mildew pressure we have seen, further reducing our crop load. As usual, the first week in September saw an extended heatwave lasting 10 days. Fortunately, many of the grapes for our estate bottlings were picked prior to the heat. This helped maintain freshness and vibrancy in a vintage that will not be known for its finesse. 100% destemmed, and aged for 18 months in barrel. The wine is fresh, lively, and loaded with flavors of blackberries, dried herbs, bacon fat and lavender. Old World inspired, but made with New World fruit. **Sustainable!**

**93 Points – '21 Robert Parker** – *“Aromas, including, olive brine, white pepper and dried cloves. The palate perfectly balances plush concentration with tensile lift, finishing rich and savory with a pleasant oak framing. This is one of the highlights of the Presqu'ile portfolio, as this site seems particularly suited to the varietal.”*