

# Wine Spectator

## 11 Distinctive Sonoma Chardonnays

**New reviews of whites from the Russian River Valley's strong 2013 vintage**

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It was smooth sailing for Chardonnay in 2013, with ideal weather producing an abundant crop of compelling wines. This week we turn our attention to the Russian River Valley, exploring releases from well-established producers and some recent additions to the region.

The Nickel family, who produce Chardonnays under their Nickel & Nickel and Far Niente labels, is branching out to Sonoma with EnRoute. The label initially focused on Pinot Noir but added a Chardonnay to the mix in 2012. The 2013 didn't undergo malolactic fermentation, accentuating its lively flavors and mouthwatering acidity.

**ENROUTE Chardonnay Russian River Valley Brumaire 2013 Score: 90**

The aromas of green apple, grapefruit, wet rock and tangerine are fresh and vibrant, with mouthwatering acidity and a lively juiciness that lingers.

Drink now.—*J.L.*