



2006 PINOT BLANC

Anderson Valley

Hein Vineyard

IN THE VINEYARD

This wine, Handley Cellars' first Pinot Blanc, comes from Hein Vineyard. Planted in the mid-1990's, Hein Vineyard is located at the north end of Anderson Valley, very near Handley's Estate Vineyard. Pinot Blanc is a mutation of Pinot Noir, planted originally in the Burgundy region of France. The Appellation Controlée, a set of regulations instituted by the French government in 1935, limited what varieties could be used in different regions, and Chardonnay was chosen as the white wine of Burgundy. As a result, most French Pinot Blanc now grows in the Alsace in northeastern France. Pinot Blanc is also popular in the Alto Adige region of northeast Italy, where it is called Pinot Bianco. Although not well known in the United States, Pinot Blanc is gaining popularity as a fruity, well-balanced wine, and a favorite of the winemaking team of Handley Cellars!

IN THE CELLAR

The fruit for this wine was direct-pressed, then left for four days to settle before racking. Fifteen percent of the juice went to neutral oak barrels for fermentation, the rest to stainless steel tanks. Ten percent of the wine completed malolactic fermentation.

IN THE BOTTLE

With aromas of gardenia, peaches, and a touch of cinnamon, our first Pinot Blanc starts soft on the front palate, moving into flavors of apples and creme brulée.

AT THE TABLE

Pinot Blanc is reminiscent of a crisp Chardonnay, and thus pairs well with some of the same food. It shows a bit more spice than Chardonnay, so it will balance mildly spicy curries with scallops or prawns.

<i>Grape Variety</i>	100% Pinot Blanc	<i>Bottling Date</i>	May 21, 2006
<i>Vineyard</i>	Hein	<i>Titrateable Acid</i>	0.52 g/100 ml
<i>Appellation</i>	Anderson Valley	<i>pH</i>	3.14
<i>Harvest Date</i>	October 21	<i>Alcohol</i>	13.8%
<i>Brix at Harvest</i>	22.1° Brix	<i>Residual Sugar</i>	0.21 g/100 ml
<i>Fermentation & Aging</i>	15% French oak 85% Stainless Steel	<i>Cases Produced</i>	408
		<i>Release Date</i>	October 2007