

# Wine Spectator

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## 12 Outstanding California Chardonnays

New reviews of highly rated bottlings from the Golden State

By Aaron Romano

For something a little different, try **Dolin Malibu Estate's Chardonnay** from the newly minted—and controversial—Malibu Coast AVA. In 2006, Elliot Dolin and his wife, Lynn, planted a single acre of Chardonnay in the backyard of their house just above the Pacific Coast Highway. The vines grow in a mix of Zuma volcanic soil and sandy loam on a southern-facing slope. Winemaker Kirby Anderson used estate grapes for the 2011.

## 90 Points

### 2011 Dolin Malibu Estate Vineyards Chardonnay

Offers a ripe, juicy and creamy mix of tropical fruit, with guava, pineapple and vanilla notes, turning delicate and spicy on the finish. Ends with a dash of anise and cedar. Drink now through 2020. 230 cases made. —*James Laube*

