



Frontier Block

OF GRIMSBY HILLSIDE

SINGLE-VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

WINE DETAILS

INDIGENOUS YEAST FERMENT;
Indigenous Malolactic 100%

20 MONTHS IN NEW,
SLIGHTLY-USED AND NEUTRAL
BARRELS, FROM BURGUNDIAN
COOPERS, & FORESTS

RACKED TO TANK BY GRAVITY /
UNDER PRESSURE OF
INERT GAS

MINIMALLY CLARIFIED
13.5% alc. / vol; 2.05 g/l
residual sugar

SUB-APPELLATION:
Lincoln Lakeshore VQA

DATE OF PLANTING: 2004

DISTANCE FROM LAKE ONTARIO:
3.25 KM

ELEVATION AT TOP OF
VINEYARD: 122M

METRES DIFFERENTIATION
FROM TOP TO BOTTOM OF
VINEYARD: 10M

TOUSSAINT RELEASE, NOVEMBER 1ST, 2023:

TASTING NOTE UPON RELEASE OF WINE AT 24 MONTHS OLD.

Tight, chalky, - salty seashell minerality; a chiseled texture across the palate; there is NO other place in Niagara like this! Solid stone, musky yellow July plum fruit and marine-flavoured chalk, a bespoke stony finish with a lightness of being. If not quite the expansive richness of the Vineland Bench; who cares? Fascinating, intoxicating; this lithe, tiny dancer impresses with its form; its ineffable lightness and crunchy stone finale! Tasted after the incredible 'Trio from Vineland,' this terroir clearly makes room for itself between the other 'Grand Bench' wines, with its lighter, lacey, jasmine-mint and lime-inflected complex sesame oil textures!

A WORD FROM MARY: Crunchy fruit, jasmine white flower perfume & Guimauve
DRINKING PRIME: Now - 2030

BEST FRUIT WINDOW: 2023-2028
JUST 233 CASES PRODUCED

THE PARCEL

The 'Frontier Block,' for the fact that it is the first - or the last - vineyard / terroir in Niagara. Grimsby Hillside is a wild, stony, 'big-sky' site out in the Extreme west of Niagara. The topsoils vary from silty clay/loam mixes to grey and red clays, over top of heavy red clay subsoils, with another layer that appears to contain calcareous limestone shale and gravel deposits (suspected to be eroded material from the escarpment face that settled on the site). The Frontier Block was only under-drained every second row because of the number of boulders that were found under the ground, which made draining every row a cost-prohibitive exercise. All the limestone and granite boulders that were dug up during drainage installation in 2007 are all still there along the edge of the escarpment. There's certainly many more tons of loose rock left under the Frontier Chardonnay block, snuggled up as it is against the escarpment. "The rest of the vineyard is under-drained in every single row. Nestled into the foothill of the Escarpment. Breathtaking, big sky country. Grimsby Hillside is another vineyard that is so close to the Lake that it is at once "The Bench" and "Lake-influenced." NB: It is a travesty that this vineyard must be labelled "Lincoln Lakeshore" when it is so clearly "Bench" in flavour, terroir and location. Locals are hoping for a new VQA: "Grimsby Narrows!"

THE GROWER

See Red Clay Barn Block of Grimsby Hillside on page 22.

SOIL COMPOSITION

Surprisingly, very little sand. Clay, silt, & limestone. Very stony, in parts, especially closer to the Escarpment.