

**PLUS!***Gold Series Selection***Dierberg Estate***2006 Estate Chardonnay*Santa Maria Valley

When Jim Dierberg has a passion for something, he acts quickly and decisively. Just ask his wife, Mary, to whom he proposed on their first date! It was love at first sight, yet again, when they laid their eyes on the Star Lane Ranch Estate in the Santa Ynez Valley of California's Central Coast. Starting with just 100 acres in 1996, the couple planted the Star Lane Estate to mostly Bordeaux varietals, and then purchased two more vineyard properties, which they named Dierberg Vineyards. Jim and Mary decided the cooler Dierberg Vineyards were well suited for Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Syrah, and gave the 'Dierberg Estate' name to these vineyards' unique wine profile. Considered 'sister estates,' Star Lane and Dierberg utilize an extraordinary winery facility carved into the base of a 1500-foot-high ridge. A visual feast as well as a minimalist's vision of winemaking efficiency, the winery moves grapes, juice and wine entirely by gravity from the crush pad to the caves three stories below, while ensuring the most gentle handling and winemaking strategies possible. From world-class wines to a stunning facility, Star Lane and Dierberg Estate have quickly become frontrunners of California's esteemed Central Coast.

ACCOLADES & TASTING NOTES

Hard work, a vast time investment and near religious faith in their Chardonnay program has really paid off for Dierberg Estate. Their 2006 Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay is quite possibly the winery's very strongest Chardonnay to date, with three 90+ scores and such rewarding reviews that the estate has since sold out completely. Dierberg's 2006 Chardonnay garnered **92 Points** from *Wine Enthusiast* magazine: "Extraordinary ripeness, spiciness and crisp, cool-climate acidity. **Just beautiful**, with exotic flavors of grilled pineapples, honeysuckle, lemongrass, cinnamon and buttered toast." This wine was also awarded **92 Points** by *Connoisseurs' Guide* and **90 Points** by *Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar*. Dierberg's Chardonnays are among the rare Californian Chardonnays that gracefully improve with age for five or more years, and this 2006 vintage is rich, hedonistic, and drinks deliciously now. Deep tangelo, grapefruit and lemongrass aromas are balanced with fresh lemon peel notes and a creamy hazelnut impression, while on the palate, the wine is all citrus – lemon rind, lemon curd and lemon blossoms. A beautiful wine and a great value! Aged 16 months in oak. 100% Chardonnay. Enjoy now until 2012.

REORDERS*2006 Estate Chardonnay*

Winery Direct: \$32.00 /bottle

**Gold Medal Wine Store price:****2-Bottle Members: \$21.00 /bottle****4-Bottle/ Multi-Series Members: \$19.50 /bottle**

\*2 bottle min. order. Availability is extremely limited.

(plus shipping)

[www.goldmedalwineclub.com](http://www.goldmedalwineclub.com)

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