

The Monte Xanic Estate

- Monte Xanic is heralded as the first boutique winery in Mexico, established in 1988. The story goes that this move, (and Monte Xanic's subsequent success) played a major role in starting a trend towards grape farmers making wine from their own grapes rather than raising grapes for sale.
- With a large quantity of land under vine in all of the major wine growing valleys of the region, they are by far the most prolific of the boutique wineries in the region.
- Their vineyard sites are farmed sustainably and their winery operates as a model of modern eco-friendly design.
- The estate weds advanced technology with old world wisdom, such as harvesting all of their white grapes by hand at night in order to maintain maximum freshness and acidity.
- The "X" in Xanic is pronounced like a "sh", so Xanic sounds like "shan-eek". Xanic is the name of the white flower that is one of the first to bloom in spring in Valle de Guadalupe. When the spring rains are just right, the mountainside behind the winery is cloaked in their blooms.

2023 Calixa Chardonnay - Monte Xanic

Tasting Notes and Drinking Window:

Somehow this wine, which is considered part of their entry level Calixa line just keeps getting better and better. Much of this has to do with the fruit coming from their organically farmed vineyards in Valle de Ojos Negros where they are managing to get perfect ripeness of fruit while maintaining delightful crisp acidity. Once a "comfort" wine that was built in a rounded, accessible and entry style, the 2023 vintage of this Chardonnay brings the Calixa line into the Majors. Sharper angularity, more clarity of voice on the nose and in the mouth, this wine is a clear indication of where the estate is going. Bravo.

Drinking window: Upon release - 4 years

Vintage: 2023

Blend: 100% Chardonnay

Producer: Monte Xanic

Winemaker: Oscar Gaona, Mexican - lives in Valle de Guadalupe

Vineyards: Granite and clay mix

Aging: Fermented and aged in stainless steel tanks

Farming: Sustainable

Alcohol: 12.4%

Total production: 18 wines, 100,000 cases