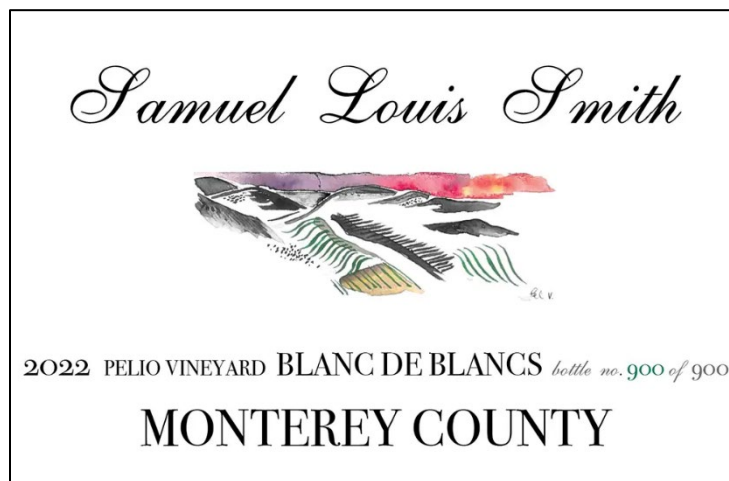


Samuel Louis Smith California Central Coast



Blanc de Blancs Pelio Vineyard 2022

Sam Smith inhibited malo in this cool, dusty sparkling wine. Pre-release sample. Organic.

It is a tart thing, a touch of lees to go along with a lemony scent. Flavours are a touch pithy, with a salty austerity that suggests a long life. The mouth-watering raciness put me in mind of a seafood platter. Drink: 2026 – 2036

17/20 pts-Patrick Comiskey, [jancisrobinson.com](https://www.jancisrobinson.com), May 22, 2026

Made like the delicious 2021, his first, the 2022 Blanc De Blancs Pelio Vineyard is native fermented in stainless tank and then spends another six months in neutral barrel, 33 months en tirage. Tasting of pure peach and fluffy biscuit, it has an enduring creaminess on the palate, with impressive texture and length. From a beautiful site overlooking Carmel Valley and the Pacific Ocean, soon to be within the pending Carmel Coast AVA, it's a showcase of cool-climate Chardonnay at its sparkling best, disgorged January 23, 2026. It's hard to resist drinking it now, but this gorgeous bubbly will last for decades; enjoy best 2028-2042.

96 pts-Virginie Boone, [jebdunnuck.com](https://www.jebdunnuck.com), March 2026