



ABOUT THE VINEYARD...

Our Chardonnay owes its style, depth, and structure to intensely flavored, low yielding, heirloom clones grown at the Toyon Farm on the Napa side of Carneros. We hand-selected the cuttings ourselves, from older vineyards in the Carneros area. These cuttings are reputed to have origins tracing to Paul Masson who imported them from Burgundy in the early 1940's, from Louis Latour's renowned Corton Charlemagne vineyard. These selections are often referred to as "Old Wente" denoting the sourced mother block in the 1960s.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE...

Well timed rainfall brought and nice Spring growing conditions resulted in luxuriant growth to start the 2018 season. A steady and cool growing season with just a few heat spikes kept our vines happy throughout. The wines started out with elegant, balanced fruit and have continued to fill out in the bottle. The Chardonnay expression from this vintage is tilted toward refreshing and vibrant aromatics while the foundation of minerality and structure from the small berried Old Wente fruit provides its familiar framework.

ABOUT THE WINE...

We aspire to guide our Chardonnay toward a layered, complex, and expressive style that develops gracefully in the bottle and shows enticing minerality, vivacious fruit, length and structure. For us, the watchword is balance. We pressed the grapes as whole clusters, settled and fermented entirely in French oak from four different coopers, chosen for their unique synergies and complementing the lush fruit on the palate. One third of the barrels were new. We use a variety of yeasts, including native strains, with fermentation proceeding evenly and slowly - averaging a cool 55°F. The wine was aged on its yeast lees, which were stirred weekly through the spring. 538 cases produced.

TASTING NOTES...

Notes of ripe apple and honeydew melon greet and are delicately perfumed by notes of freesia and citrus blossom. Brighter notes of lime and Meyer lemon match the refreshing acidity of this wine, balanced by a creamy palate and leading to a finish that continues to lengthen as the wine opens up. A versatile wine with richness and liveliness to enjoy alone or pair with scallops, seafood, cream sauces.