

Sta. Rita Hills 2020 CAROL ANN CHARDONNAY

Overview

When Bill Foley founded Lincourt in 1996, the Sta. Rita Hills region of Santa Barbara county was largely undiscovered. Today it is one of California's most coveted, cool-climate, viticultural regions. Lincourt's wines are produced entirely from our two estate vineyards within the AVA. They are rolling hillside sites that offer 'limiting' soils, large diurnal temperature swings and long growing seasons. Our wines are rich, structured, fruit forward and regionally exact.

Sustainability

At Lincourt, we believe that a vibrant, living environment has a positive effect on the health of the vines and the character and quality of the wines. To ensure the vitality of our land and the authenticity of our wines, we use sustainable methods in all of our farming, winemaking and business practices.

VINTAGE

The 2020 growing season began with a dry, cool weather pattern that led to a 3-day heat surge of IOO+^{°F} temperatures in July. Though nearby fires greatly diminished air quality in the area, we were fortunate not to face any immediate threats to the winery. Through all the layers of challenges 2020 presented, the sense of comradery in our team grew and the result is a vintage of expressive and delightful wines.

VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING

As part of the original Spanish Land Grant, Rancho Santa Rosa Vineyard is one of Santa Barbara's most historic properties. This south-facing hillside climbs from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level. It features 59 individual micro-blocks delineated by terroir, soil type, elevation, grade and exposure to the maritime winds off the Pacific Ocean. The grapes were gently whole cluster pressed and transferred to stainless steel tank after harvest. Regular stirring of the lees imparted additional viscosity and complexity. The wine was aged for 18 months in French oak barrels, 35% new.

TASTING NOTES

Our Carol Ann Chardonnay takes its name after Proprietor Bill Foley's wife and is the perfect introduction to world-class Sta. Rita Hills grown chardonnay with the balance of austerity and elegance. The wine opens with aromas of toasted hazelnut, fresh clover honey, lemon curd and nuance of vanilla bean. The palate is reminiscent of Chablis with lean minerality, refined fruit, and balanced yet moderate oak. Notes of lemon curd and vanilla waffer cookies linger on the finish.

> APPELLATION Sta. Rita Hills VINEYARD Rancho Santa Rosa East HARVEST DATE August 25 - October 20, 2020 100% Chardonnay COMPOSITION BARREL AGING 18 months in French oak, 35% new ALCOHOL 14.3% 6.8 g/L TA pН 3.38 BOTTLING DATE April 26, 2022 PRODUCTION 318 cases