

2022 CHARDONNAY

RANCHO SANTA ROSA | STA. RITA HILLS

Located in the Santa Rita Hills AVA of Santa Barbara County, the stunning hillsides of the Rancho Santa Rosa Vineyard features vines that climb from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level. The soils are marine-based and the weather is consistently cool thanks to moist ocean breezes that sweep the property daily. The vineyard is farmed with the painstaking care and attention usually associated with much smaller properties. In fact, this vineyard was originally conceived as a series of individual micro-vineyards delineated by soil, exposure, elevation, grade, rootstock and clone.

VINEYARD Located in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA of Santa Barbara County, the grapes for this wine comes from stunning hillside vineyards that climb from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level. The soils are marine-based and the weather is consistently cool thanks to ocean breezes that sweep the property daily. Originally conceived as a series of individual micro-vineyards delineated by soil, exposure, elevation, grade, rootstock, and clone, these vineyards are farmed with painstaking care and attention to detail.

VINTAGE The prominent event of vintage 2022 was an unprecedented heat wave that occurred September 1 - 8, with temperatures reaching 106 degrees. Industry wide, we have referred to this anomaly as the "heat dome." As harvest progressed, we experienced a bit of rain, lightning, and humidity pressure from Hurricane Kay mid-September. Mother Nature dealt us a surprising number of challenging weather circumstances, but overall 2022 delivered beautifully balanced, light-bodied wines.

WINEMAKING After harvest the grapes were gently whole-cluster pressed and transferred to tank. Following a day of cold-settling, the juice was inoculated and racked to French oak barrels. It then underwent regular stirring of the lees for added texture and complexity. All lots were kept separate throughout vinification and aging to ensure character distinctiveness and quality. After aging for 10 months in 30% new French oak barrels, the wine was filtered and bottled.

TASTING The 2022 Chardonnay opens with beautiful aromas of fresh lemon curd, and vanilla wafer. Medium-bodied on the palate, this wine offers balanced acidity with plenty of citrus fruit, pineapple, and yellow peach, with a delightful vanilla bean meringue on the finish.

APPELLATION Sta. Rita Hills | VINEYARD Rancho Santa Rosa COMPOSITION 100% Chardonnay COOPERAGE 10 months in 30% new French oak ALCOHOL 13.5% | TA 5.7 g/L | pH 3.45

