

CHALONE VINEYARD

“Chalone isn’t a label; it’s a place on earth.” The wines speak to the limestone and decomposed granite soils that are specific to this wild, isolated mountain plateau in Monterey County. The low-nutrient soils make the vines struggle and give the wines unique minerality; the diurnal temperature swings and cool winds retain acidity; the intense sunshine builds flavors and tannin structure; and the age of our vines enhances the wines’ concentration, complexity and ageability.

2017 ESTATE SYRAH

VINEYARD

Our Syrah vineyards make up 18 acres on the Chalone estate. These acres are divided into three sections: Tower, Strip and Macwood Vineyard, and the vines are grafted to three different Syrah clones for flavor complexity. The Australian Shiraz clone brings the Old World character: earthy spice, black tar, white pepper and deep fruit. The northern Rhône Syrah clone is bright and fruit-driven. The third clone’s character is between the Rhône and Shiraz clones, making the blend reminiscent of both wine regions, yet shaped by the terroir of Chalone.

VINTAGE

The 2017 vintage yielded an average amount of rainfall overall, however approaching harvest we experienced incredible heat spikes with temperatures above 110°F for more than two weeks. A sudden temperature increase during this critical time makes for a swift harvest as sugar levels spike resulting in the entire vineyard ripening simultaneously. All of these factors amounted to a very condensed harvest, similar to the year prior.

WINE

Our 2018 Syrah is bold and complex - just as you’d want a Syrah to be. Leather, cinnamon, tobacco leaf and dark fruits offer layers of intrigue for the senses.

WINE DATA

VARIETAL COMPOSITION:	100% Syrah
BARREL AGING:	15 months in French oak, 50% new
APPELLATION:	Chalone AVA
ALCOHOL:	14.1%
ACIDITY:	6.3 g/L
PH:	3.6
RESIDUAL SUGAR:	Dry
CASE PRODUCTION:	236



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