



2018 FIRETREE VINEYARD | CARNEROS

CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKING

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Chardonnay

CLONAL SELECTION

D76, Wente

HARVEST DATES

September 21 – 28, 2018

BRIX AT HARVEST

Average 23.9°

FERMENTATION

100% barrel fermented:

83% in 60-gallon French oak barrels

17% in 500L French oak puncheons

5% of the blend completed malolactic fermentation

BARREL AGING REGIMEN

Aged 6 months in barrel, 41% French new oak

All barrels stirred once a week for 5 months

PH: 3.52 pH | **TA:** 5.90 g/L | **RS:** 0.19%

ALCOHOL: 15.0%

PRODUCTION

972 cases (9L); Bottled August 2019

SRP: \$40

WINEMAKERS

Jon Emmerich, Elena Franceschi

HERITAGE

FIRETREE VINEYARD (100%) – Firetree Vineyard is tucked in the northeastern corner of the Los Carneros AVA, off a narrow road that winds through the hills between Browns Valley and Old Sonoma Road. The Firetree Vineyard site was originally part of the Napa Ranch granted to Salvador Vallejo by the Mexican government in 1838 and was acquired by Silverado 150 years later.

SOILS + CLIMATE

Firetree Vineyard's steep, 30- to 50-degree slopes of sandstone and shale create a classic site for Chardonnay, with soils of Bressa–Dibble Complex and Cole Silt Loam, complemented by the San Pablo Bay's cooling influence..

VINTAGE

February saw abundant rains, followed by lots of filtered light in spring and early summer. Both bud break and flowering occurred a bit late, but under ideal weather conditions, creating a plentiful and even fruit set. Summer brought generous sun during the day and cooler marine influences, virtually uninterrupted by major heat spikes. The relatively mild summer was followed by extended fall sunshine and moderate heat, which created near-ideal conditions for winemakers to allow their fruit to accumulate flavor complexity with gradual increases in sugar levels.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas and flavors of crisp yellow apple, white nectarine, apricot, underripe pineapple and a hint of graham cracker. Balanced acidity and a creamy mouthfeel are followed by a clean, minerally finish.

CONTACT

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