

Racines

2019 WENZLAU CHARDONNAY



Racines is a collaboration by two classic houses from France, led by Etienne de Montille and Brian Sieve of Burgundy and Rodolphe Peters of Champagne. The team came together to join their individual experiences in hand-crafting wines of purity and transparency to create a range of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from the cool climate of the Sta. Rita Hills in California.

VINEYARD

Our newest single vineyard chardonnay is sourced solely from the Wenzlau Vineyard, one of our estate holdings. We farm the vineyard ourselves using organic practices. Wenzlau Vineyard sits surrounded by Rita's Crown, Mt. Carmel, and Sea Smoke Vineyards, on a steep, dramatic hillside just above the Santa Ynez River and across from the famed Sanford & Benedict Vineyard.

PRODUCTION

The wines were fermented in a combination of 500L puncheons, 350L barrels and 228L barriques, resulting in about 20% new oak on the wine. After nearly a year in barrel, the wines and all the lees were moved to tank for an additional five months of cellaring.

TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Alcohol

12.7%

Soil Type

Sorento loam

Elevage

11 months - 20% new French oak -
5 months in stainless steel

Cases Produced

264

The 2019 Chardonnay Wenzlau Family Vineyard is a compelling wine from this site. The pedigree is evident from the first taste. Orchard fruit, mint, white pepper and beams of salinity play off a distinctly phenolic feel. The Wenzlau is a rare Chardonnay of substance and power that very much captures the essence of site.

94 POINTS - ANTONIO GALLONI, VINOUS