

2023 Wrath Chardonnay, San Saba Vineyard

Overview

Wrath represents a nexus of nature and an unbridled passion for winemaking. We produce site-driven Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Syrah, Falanghina and Sauvignon Blanc from our estate vineyard and respected properties in the Santa Lucia Highlands. Our production is small, our distribution is limited and our wines reveal attitude, passion, and an inherent respect for what a vineyard can give us.

Philosophy

Our wines are a record of the topography, geology and climate of a finite, naturally defined piece of land over the span of a growing season. They chronicle the elaborate dance between terroir, grape, people and time. While all of our wines possess strong varietal characteristics, their real strength is their ability to deliver the unique aromatics, flavors and textures of a specific site.

Vineyard

Our Estate San Saba Vineyard is set in a sheltered nook just below the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA. The estate consists of 72 acres of which 67.75 are planted to Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc, Syrah and Falanghina. This is a cool site with little rainfall and one of the longest growing seasons in the world. Our soils, Arroyo Gravelly Loam and Hanford Gravelly Sandy Loam, provide a low-vigor, well-draining, disease- and pest-free medium for our vines. They also impart a subtle mineral quality to our wines.

To preserve our local ecosystem, we have worked with viticultural consultant Steve McIntyre to develop a sustainable farming program, certified by the CCVT, tailored to our estate. In addition to protecting the local environment, we believe it allows us to produce wines that are more authentic and specific to our terroir.

Production Notes

The 2023 vintage in California was a challenging year in some areas because of freezing temps during the time of fruit set and two heat streaks late summer. However, since our climate is consistently so cold, grape clones grown in our area took the cold in stride. Also, since our grapes are usually harvested a month later than Napa & Sonoma, the higher temps in late August only served to fully ripen grapes resulting in layers of rich flavors. Grapes are hand picked and hand sorted before barrel fermentation. Within each clone lot, certain barrels are inoculated with Montrachet yeast while others undergo native yeast fermentation. Once fermentation is complete, the lots are racked into French oak barrels and aged for 10 months. Only selected barrels are chosen for this bottling. After bottling on site, the wine is rested for another year before release.

Technical Data

Composition 100% Chardonnay Vineyard San Saba Vineyard

AVA Monterey

Clones 50% Mt. Eden, 32% Wente and 18% clone 17

Oak all French oak, 30% new

Alcohol 14.3 Cases produced 77 Suggested Retail \$49