



2016 Estate Chardonnay Arroyo Grande Valley



The 2016 growing season was one of the very best in the 30 year history of Talley Vineyards. After four years of severe drought, El Niño conditions brought the most rainfall to the region since 2011. After a cool and windy spring, temperatures throughout the season were moderate, especially during the critical summer months when veraison and ripening occurred. The absence of severe heat for any extended period during the harvest season meant that the grapes were harvested at a moderate pace at optimal ripeness. Yields in the vineyard were consistent with five year averages and the resulting wines reflect the concentration, balance and elegance that is the hallmark of the confluence of a perfect growing season and a wine growing approach committed to capturing all the potential of the San Luis Obispo Coast region.

- ◆ Produced entirely from estate grown Chardonnay grapes from the Arroyo Grande Valley
- ◆ 45% Rincon Vineyard, 37% Rosemary's Vineyard, 11% Las Ventanas Vineyard, 7% Monte Sereno Vineyard
- ◆ Hand-harvested August 23 - October 1, 2016
- ◆ Naturally barrel fermented with native yeasts
- ◆ Aged *sur lie* 13 months in French oak barrels, 14% new, 25% one year old barrels
- ◆ Bottled in December 2017
- ◆ 13.8% alcohol

The signature white wine of Talley Vineyards, the Estate Chardonnay represents a pure expression of the calcareous soils and cool maritime climate of the Arroyo Grande Valley produced in a classic old world style, incorporating barrel fermentation and aging. This bottling dates to the inaugural vintage of 1986 and was the first Chardonnay produced in the Arroyo Grande Valley.

Light gold in appearance, the 2016 Estate Chardonnay offers aromas of freshly churned butter and a hint of rose petal. On the palate, classic citrus elements of tangerine and Meyer lemon are enhanced with notes of honey-roasted nuts that lead to a rich and toasty finish. Enjoy this Chardonnay with pad thai or chicken piccata in a caper and butter sauce.