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SIERRA DEL MAR VINEYARD

2023 CHARDONNAY

Clarksburg

Vineyard and Winemaking Facts: These Chardonnay grapes are grown in Clarksburg California which is East of San Francisco by 90 miles in the Sacramento Delta area. The delta is warm based on its inland location, but due to the coastal proximity the area receives the cool breezes in the early afternoon from the San Francisco Bay. The cooler the climate, the higher the natural acidity. We harvest the grapes in the middle of the night by machine while cold and deliver the fruit early at the winery. We directly press the grapes to express the juice into a refrigerated tank for juice clarification. After 72 hours of cold settling the juice is racked clean off of the solids into a fermentation tank. The wine is then inoculated with yeast and primary fermentation begins at 50 degrees F. The wine is fermented in tank cold for 14 days which is halfway through fermentation. Finally, the wine is then transferred into neutral French oak for the remainder of fermentation. After fermentation the wine was inoculated for malolactic fermentation to be 50% and then allowed to age in barrels for 9 months.

Sierra Del Mar describes the cycle and flow of water in California. Rain and snow fall in the Sierra mountains flow into the below waterways (the Sacramento Delta) which feeds the irrigation of our grapes.

Tasting Notes: Light golden straw color with aromas of mineral, verbena and clover honey notes. The palate is juicy with passion fruit, mango and tangerine zest. The finish is balanced and showcases the cool climate of Clarksburg and the resulting acidity from the grapes grown here.

Food Pairings: This Chardonnay pairs well with salmon gravlax served with finely sliced cucumber, lemon, dill and capers. You might also try it with grilled salmon and herb butter served with rustic, chunky mashed red potatoes with roasted garlic and broccolini. It lends itself well to cheeses and charcuterie, but it's crisp profile makes an enjoyable aperitif wine on a warm summer night.

Varietal Composition...	100% Chardonnay
Appellation.....	Clarksburg, California
Winemakers.....	Richard Bruno & Chris Condos
Alcohol.....	13.5%
Barrel Aging.....	100% Neutral French Oak
TA.....	0.61g/L
pH.....	3.56
Production.....	600 cases

