

2018 Estate Chardonnay - Clone 76 Inox Estate Small Lot Collection - Sta. Rita Hills

The inspiration for Inox is born out of a pursuit to capture the essence of both the vineyard and varietal in their purest form. This specific wine originates from the first twenty-nine rows of Block A, a cold and inhospitable 1.8 acre section on the west side of our estate planted to Clone 76 on extremely sandy soils. We love the marriage of this colder block and clone, as the grapes regularly reach proper acidity ripeness at lower sugars; an attribute we find ideal for our interpretation of stainless steel chardonnay. Upon immediate pressing, the juice is transferred into two small stainless steel tanks for a long, cold fermentation at an average temperature of 45°F to capture and enhance the fruit's delicate nuances. The subsequent cold storage also prohibited the onset of malolactic fermentation. The wine then remained on its lees without any oak contact or disturbance for five months before being bottled in late March.

Antonio Galloni: 92 points Robert Parker: 91 Points

tasting notes: Vibrant green-gold in color, vivid and pure aromatics of lemon verbena, ripe plantain and golden pineapple spring from the glass. On the palate, white floral notes of honeysuckle, freesia and citrus blossom linger alongside weightier impressions of fresh mint, rock salt, macadamia nut oil and stone fruits. The mouthfeel is clean and focused, with a lively streak of acidity that anchors the wine's generous and vivacious finish.

AVA: Sta. Rita Hills

Varietal: 100% Chardonnay

Cases Produced: 460

Clone: 76

Elevage: Stainless Steel

Alcohol: 12.8%

Release Date: April, 2019