

MODEL FARM



2020 CHARDONNAY

WILDCAT MOUNTAIN VINEYARD, SONOMA VALLEY

Careful, thoughtful site selection is at the core of everything we do. We seek out compelling vineyards with unique terroir that share in our dedication to sustainable, honest farming, and allow us to create balanced wines of freshness, minerality, and textural richness. A site we have long admired, Wildcat Mountain Vineyard checks all of these boxes for us.

Isolated on a windswept ridge-top separating Sonoma Valley from Petaluma, this old vine vineyard is planted on an outcropping of pure volcanic rock. Sitting high above the valley below, the vineyard is exposed to the full brunt of wind from the Petaluma Gap and cold fog that funnels off of the San Pablo Bay. Very thin, rocky soils allow the vines to reach their optimal ripeness despite the challenging climate.

CELLAR NOTES

Once in the cellar, we are solely focused on translating this exciting terroir into the bottle. We utilize transparent winemaking techniques, make skillful choices the press, and exercise lot of patience which ultimately allows the fruit to coalesce into a wine of incredible depth, tension, mineral precision, and cellaring potential.

Our Wildcat Mountain Vineyard Chardonnay was harvested in the early morning hours of August 17th, the same day of the lightning storms that changed the rest of the 2020 vintage. We feel fortunate to have been able to create this wine, uncompromised, during the small slice of normalcy at the start of the vintage. The 2020 Wildcat Mountain Vineyard Chardonnay represents a real bright spot for us in an otherwise challenging year.

- Harvested 8/17/2020 at 21.5° Brix
- Volcanic Soil
- Clone 76 (Champagne Selection)
- Fermented and Raised in neutral French Oak and further aging in stainless steel
- 13.3 % Alc
- 7 Barrels Produced (170 cases)

93+ points. John Gilman, View from the Cellar

"A beautifully refined bouquet of apple, pear, orange zest, a touch of almond, stony soil tones, fruit blossoms. On the palate the wine is bright, full-bodied and complex, with a superb core, great mineral undertow and cut, zesty acids and a long, elegant and beautifully precise finish. This is outstanding chardonnay that will be even better with a few years in the cellar!"

