



WAYFARER

2016 CHARDONNAY WAYFARER VINEYARD

TASTING NOTES

In the glass, our 2016 Chardonnay displays a pale yellow hue. Its aromas are reminiscent of walking through a flower garden in spring—with redolent white flower, honeysuckle and orange blossom. On the palate the wine is lean and focused, with rich warmth and unifying acidity. Hints of minerality reveal themselves over a finish of incredible depth and length. Enjoy this wine in its youth or over the next 10 to 15 years while it continues to develop in the bottle.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2016 vintage showcases elegance and purity of fruit, as the growing season shifted to a more normal timeframe after the previous three vintages had an early start. The growing season started off with above-normal temperatures that eased into more moderate June weather. The last days of August and first of September marked a minor heat spell, that brought the vines out of their slow, methodical ripening. When the temperatures increased, extra care was taken by the vineyard team and our multiple passes through the vineyard paid off—we harvested each block of our Wayfarer Vineyard at peak ripeness, for wines with vibrant fruit and balanced acidity.

WINEMAKING NOTES

We handpicked each block and delivered firm, cool clusters to the winery before sunrise. After gentle pressing, the wine settled for 24 hours, followed by a carefully monitored racking to barrel. We transferred to 76% new French oak from cooperages including Damy, François Frères, and Remond. Native yeasts slowly guided alcoholic fermentation, with careful bâtonnage until malolactic fermentation completion. The wine was aged in barrel for 15 months, upon which it was bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

ACCLAIM

“Starting with the Chardonnay, the 2016 Chardonnay Wayfarer Vineyard is an extraordinary effort as well as world-class. Offering an ultra-pure bouquet of white flowers, tangerine, crushed citrus, and hints of brioche and marzipan, it hits the palate with medium-bodied richness, a seamless, elegant texture, riveting acidity, and a great, great finish. It’s certainly one of the gems in the great vintage and is going to benefit from a year or two of bottle age and keep for 15+ years.” 98 Points. Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com.

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ORIGIN	Wayfarer Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview, Sonoma Coast
BLOCKS	2, 12, 17, 27, 28, 29
CLONES	Berlenbach Old Wente, Hyde Old Wente, Mount Eden, Dijon 95
WINEMAKER	Bibiana González Rave
PRUNING	Double guyot
VINE YIELD	3 pounds per vine
HARVESTED	September 14 - 22, 2016
BOTTLED	December 11, 2017
ALCOHOL	14.4%
pH	3.28
PRODUCTION	725 cases

