

the hilt

2019

The Estate wines are defined by the fruit and flavors of our little southwestern corner of the Sta. Rita Hills. They speak of the nuances and complexities of our properties as a whole. These wines take into account the many aspects, clones, soil types, and other properties of our estate. They give us the maximum amount of blending components and, represent the most complete wines in our portfolio.

Matt Dees, Winemaker Notes:

Vibrant, toasty, and reserved. Fresh pineapple. Lemon curd with powdered sugar lift. Lithe and graceful. Exotic and saline. Like oyster brine. Long life ahead. Remains taut and reserved with a fine level of soft and supple fruit. Loquat, green apple, chamomile tea, ginger, lime pith and agave. Absolute finesse with a touch of the raw energy from the cold Pacific winds. A wine of place and of attitude. Cold and steely with an undeniable touch of warmth, generosity, and overall pleasure.

Estate Chardonnay

VARIETAL:	100% Chardonnay
CASES:	2,145
APPELLATION:	Sta. Rita Hills
CLONAL SELECTION:	76, 95 and S+B
ALCOHOL:	13.0%
BARRELS:	34% new French oak, 56% neutral French oak, 10% stainless steel for 11 months

92 Points Antonio Gallon *Vinous* Aug. 2020

The 2018 Chardonnay 'state is soft, open-knit and inviting. Light tropical accents add character to the orchard fruit flavors in this attractive, mid-weight offering. The 2018 finishes with superb persistence, impeccable balance and brilliant saline notes that knit all the elements together. This is such a classy, polished wine.

92 Points Jeb Dunnuck *Jebdunnuck.com* Aug. 2020

Starting with the appellation 2018 Chardonnay 'state, this wine has a vivid gold hue as well as classy notes of sliced apple, nectarines, and honeyed flowers, with just a hint of salinity and minerality. It's elegant, beautifully balanced, and has a great finish, all while staying in the more vibrant, fresh style of this estate.