



NIELSON

BY BYRON

2016 "WENTE" CLONE CHARDONNAY, SANTA MARIA VALLEY

NIELSON WINES

Our namesake, Uriel J. Nielson, planted Santa Barbara's first commercial vineyard in 1964 when his critics thought the region was too cold to deliver world class wines. At Nielson, we pay homage to that pioneering spirit, producing Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays from some of the area's most celebrated vineyards. Our east-west valleys, marine soils, morning fog and seaside sunsets make Santa Barbara the perfect setting for uncommon wines of stunning minerality, acidity and balance. We use small-lot winemaking techniques such as hand pruning, block-by-block harvesting, barrel fermentations and lees stirring to create wines that beg discovery.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of white citrus flower and lemon meringue lead to a beautiful freshness on the palate with balanced acidity and richness.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Cuttings from the original block of Wente Clone Chardonnay planted in 1964 were propagated in 1991 to create this block. The grape clusters are small with both large berries that contribute ripe fruit flavors and small berries that contribute acidity. The clusters are gently pressed, and the juice is settled overnight before going into French oak barrels for native fermentation.

APPELLATION

The Santa Maria Valley – of Santa Barbara County – is one of California's coolest AVAs, with one of the longest growing seasons in the world. The region is defined by its well-drained, lean soils and the unique east/west transverse mountain ranges that act as a funnel for morning fog and cold afternoon winds off the Pacific Ocean, resulting in balanced, vibrant wines.

VINTAGE	2016
VARIETAL	100% CHARDONNAY
APPELLATION	SANTA MARIA VALLEY
AGING	10 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK, 38% NEW
ALCOHOL	14.4%
TA	0.6G/100ML
pH	3.40

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