TONDRÉ

Santa Lucia Highlands Monterey County

Winemaker Notes

2020 Santa Lucia Highlands Chardonnay Tondré Grapefield

<u>Stats</u> Alcohol: 13.4% PH: 3.50 TA: 0.71 ML: None RS: 0mg/100ml (Dry) 252 Cases Produced

Tasting Notes

The 2020 Vintage Chardonnay turned out to be a complicated year due to the wildfires in California. Although the smoke impacted the red grapes, it posed less of an issue for the whites. The reason being, they are not fermented on the skins the way Pinot Noir and other reds are. In years like these, great care is taken at this stage to prevent any smoke impact from affecting the juice. When the grapes are loaded into the press, they are pressed several times at a low pressure to extract every last ounce; a technique used by large wineries focused on volume rather than quality. Once pressed, our 2020 Vintage Chardonnay was entirely tank-fermented to show off the natural fruitiness. The resulting wine speaks for itself. It has the usual crisp apple notes with a hint of tropical fruit and the creaminess from the champagne yeast used during fermentation. This process helps to counter-balance the refreshing natural acidity.

Anthony Craig Winemaker

8/29/2021