

CHARDONNAY 2022



VINEYARD & VINTAGE

Santa Barbara is widely recognized as one of the best grape-growing regions in California. The cool winds from the western shores of the Pacific Ocean funnel into the mountain pass, pushing marine breezes and the Santa Maria fog southeast through the Los Alamos Valley, where our Chardonnay grapes are grown at El Camino Vineyard. This allows for a long growing season, where grapes can fully ripen without excessive sugar levels. This is the key behind what makes these wines so elegant and unique.

Carefully grown at El Camino Vineyard, our 2022 Chardonnay utilizes Clone 76 and Clone 4. The first is an early-ripening clone, which flourishes in the cooler climate of Santa Barbara, showing both ample flavors and acidity at an earlier brix than most clones. Moreover, it bears light clusters with fewer berries, resulting in wines that are very aromatic and well-balanced. The second, Clone 4, is a highly regarded clone that acts as the base for many of the great Chardonnays of today. This clone is late-maturing, and exhibits high acidity levels, even at ripe brix. We have chosen to feature this clone because of its incredible acid/sugar/flavor balance and the distinctive fruity and fresh flavors it provides.

This vineyard was a challenge to conquer in 2022 due to extreme heat and unusual rainfall, but the final product still managed to soar across the finish line with elegance and grace. The wine was split for aging, 63% of it aging in French oak barrels, and the remaining 37% aged in stainless steel for a total of 11 months. The portion of the wine aged in stainless steel helped maintain varietal character and freshness, while the barrel aged portion brought complexity and roundness to the final product. Please enjoy this delightful expression of Santa Barbara Chardonnay from Bianchi Winery!

REGION & VARIETAL COMPOSITION



TASTING & PAIRINGS

This 2022 Chardonnay delights the senses with its vibrant array of aromatics. Ripe peach and juicy mango mingle with zesty lemon, creating a tantalizing bouquet. On the palate, flavors of stone fruit, smooth vanilla and warm buttered toast embrace the senses, offering a rich and indulgent experience. This Chardonnay is a true embodiment of California sunshine, with is luscious fruit and creamy textures, culminating in a harmonious finish that lingers long after each sip.

| | Low | | | Medium | | | High | | |
|----------------|-----|---|---|--------|---|---|------|---|---|
| Oak | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Tree Fruit | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Citrus Fruit | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Tropical Fruit | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Earth/Mineral | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Floral | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Acidity | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Alcohol | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Sweetness | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |