



2024 SOBERANES VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

SOBERANES VINEYARD

Just south of Garys' Vineyard, where windswept oak trees dot a rolling slope, lies Soberanes Vineyard. The vineyard is named after a local land grant that occurred the late 18th century, where nearly 9,000 acres were acquired for just 100 head of livestock. Another partnership between Gary Francioni and Gary Pisoni, it was planted in 2008 with row orientation set to true north, compared to 10 degrees west of north in Garys' Vineyard. In the mornings you'll see a blanket of fog here, and in the afternoon the steady winds from the bay continue to keep vines cool when the sun is shining.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Soberanes has emerged as one of our most celebrated Chardonnay sites and has been recognized by Wine Spectator among California's finest. Drawn from rocky soils near the creek, it produces our most limited Chardonnay and a distinctly chalky, mineral-driven wine. The 2024 is textured and vibrant, with lemon cream, nectarine, and subtle herbal tones, followed by bright citrus and wet-stone minerality that carry into a long, mouthwatering finish.

VINTAGE SUMMARY

The vintage began with low rainfall totaling 13 inches. Summer brought a stretch of warmer 85-degree days, when compared to the cool 2023 and 2025 seasons. A brief burst of heat around Labor Day initiated harvest in our earlier-ripening blocks, and was followed by a cold September that extended hangtime.

Winemaker: Scott Shapley

Appellation: Santa Lucia Highlands

Farming: Sustainable (SIP Certified)

Clones: Monty, Wente, Hyde

Harvest: September 10 - October 2, 2024

Oak: 100% French oak, 33% new

Aging: 14 months in barrel

Alcohol: 14.7%

Acid: 3.4 pH

Production: 172 cases made

2024: 96 pts, *Lisa Perrotti-Brown, MW*

2023: 96 pts, *Jeb Dunnuck*

2022: 96 pts, *Jeb Dunnuck*

2021: 95 pts, *Jeb Dunnuck*



Winemaker: Scott Shapley
Appellation: Santa Lucia Highlands
Farming: Sustainable (SIP Certified)
Harvest: October 7 - 21, 2023
Oak: 100% French oak, 40% new
Aging: 16 months in barrel
Alcohol: 14.7%
Acid: 3.44 pH
Production: 138 cases made

2023: 96 pts, Jeb Dunnuck
2022: 96 pts, Jeb Dunnuck
2021: 95 pts, Jeb Dunnuck
2020: 94 pts, Jeb Dunnuck
2019: 94 pts, Wine Enthusiast
2018: 96 pts, Jeb Dunnuck
2017: 95 pts, Jeb Dunnuck
2016: 94 pts, Antonio Galloni's Vinous



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WINEMAKER NOTES

Our most limited Chardonnay bottling, Soberanes grows on rocky soils with tight vine spacing that promote concentration and savory complexity. Aromas of lemon, stone fruit, and chaparral lead into a medium-full palate layered with citrus zest, dark peach, and hints of lemon cream. Notes of dry herbs emerge on the finish, lifted by bright acidity and wet-stone minerality. Balanced and textural, this Chardonnay weaves orchard fruit through a sleek, mineral-laced finish.

VINTAGE SUMMARY

The 2023 season rewarded patience and precision. Generous winter rains of 22.5 inches, well above our typical 14 inches, replenished vines and fostered healthy canopies, minimizing irrigation needs. Budbreak, bloom, and veraison arrived about two weeks later than average. A mild spring and summer gave way to a long, gentle ripening period. A brief warm spell in early October pushed the fruit to optimal ripeness, leading to a brisk harvest that was later than normal. In the cellar, fermentations were slow and steady, allowing the wines to develop beautifully.

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