



Lang & Reed 2018 Chenin Blanc – Napa Valley

This 2018 Chenin Blanc - Napa Valley is the fifth vintage in Lang & Reed's exploration of this wonderful grape in this appellation! A generation ago, the noble Chenin Blanc was the most widely planted white grape in the Napa Valley, almost double the acreage of Chardonnay. Today, there are a scant 15 acres that are in high demand by a new generation of winemakers, who seek to create something special from this unique varietal. For Lang & Reed, the inspiration remains the Loire Valley in France, where Chenin Blanc gained its fame. The source for this bottling comes from the Oak Knoll District in the Napa Valley. The vineyard is located a stone's throw from the Napa River, in an area noted for its cool climate and well drained soils.

The wine's vinification is a collaborative effort between John and son, Reed. Reed has had his hand in making white wine on three continents - Sauvignon Blanc in New Zealand, Chardonnay in Napa Valley, and Chenin Blanc in Chinon, France. For this wine, the grapes were whole-cluster pressed, left to settle for a day, and then transferred into 10 barrels, two of which were stainless steel and the remainder being seasoned French oak. Half of the barrels were inoculated with selected yeast strains, while the balances were allowed to ferment on the indigenous yeast. The lees were stirred (battonage) weekly until March, one month before bottling. The final assemblage proved greater than any of the individual barrels.

Description

The Lang & Reed 2018 Chenin Blanc – Napa Valley is almost a complete opposite from the previous vintage, yet it possesses some of the similar attributes, with peach skin and pear fruit that slowly waft from the glass with, as always, the necessary hint of honeycomb. On the palate, the aromas are clear and precise, with background fruit flavors and a touch of herb and linden. The texture is tightly wound at this stage, with deep flavors and saline minerality, which leads into brisk acidity, adding to the wine's refreshing character. It will certainly blossom and gain in complexity with additional bottle time.

Varietal Composition	100%	Chenin Blanc
Appellation	100%	Oak Knoll District – Napa Valley
Alcohol Content	13.24%	by Volume
Total Acidity	0.69g/100mL	
pH	3.26	
Cooperage	French Oak & Stainless Steel Barrels – 4 Months	
Case Production	269 Cases (12 x 750mL)	
Bottling Date	April 26, 2019	
Label Design	Jeanne Greco, Caffe Greco Design, New York	
Release Date	Winter 2020	
UPC Code	855226003423	
SRP	\$35.00	

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