

Lang & Reed 2020 Talmage Chenin Blanc, Mendocino

This 40-year-old Chenin Blanc vineyard, located on the Talmage Bench along the Russian river in Mendocino, has been producing distinct wines for over a generation. The vineyard is planted on a gentle north-facing slope, which allows for great drainage and excellent aspect for even ripening without too much heat accumulation.

With the 2020 vintage, our seventh year of working with these grapes, we felt the grapes possessed the components to produce a more luxurious wine with extended barrel aging in fine casks. For this wine, the grapes were whole cluster pressed and allowed to settle for a day. We then transferred everything into two hand-selected barrels, one French oak and one stainless steel. One barrel was inoculated with selected yeast strains, while the other was allowed to ferment by its indigenous yeast. The lees were stirred (bâtonnage) bi-weekly, up until bottling. The wine was aged for 14 months in barrel, and this regime exposes greater nuance in the relationship between the wine and the effects of the barrel.

Description

This is a heady wine with a complex set of aromas just starting to come together that include white floral, honeysuckle and delicate vanilla scents. The complex set of aromas is mirrored in and accented by the flavors, displaying an exotic array of elements such as ripe pear, stone fruit and the minerality of wet stone. Secondary elements of ginger and lime zest also make an appearance. This vast array of aromas and flavors are brought together in the lengthy finish, which provides context and structure from both the intensity of the fruit and the lengthy barrel regime.

Varietal Composition 100% Chenin Blanc

Appellation 100% Mendocino – Talmage Bench

Alcohol Content 13.77% by Volume Total Acidity 0.62g/100mL

pH 3.14

Cooperage 15 months, 1 x François Frères & 1 x Stockinger

Case Production50 Cases (12 x 750mL)Bottling DateDecember 8, 2021

Label Design Jeanne Greco, Caffe Greco Design, New York

Release Date May 2022 SRP \$60.00/750mL

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