



Wine Profile
Moone-Tsai 2016 Sonoma Coast Chardonnay

Tasting Notes

In refreshing contrast to our sultrier Napa Valley Chardonnay, our Sonoma Coast Chardonnay remains the leggy ingenue that fans of delicate white burgundies have grown to adore. With its nuanced nose of stone fruit and candied grapefruit peel, the wine is fresh and flirty, while offering suggestions of its ascent from budding beauty to a more studied maturity. On the palate, the wine offers notes of white peach and citrus, accented by hints of pear, wet stone, dried herbs, and biscuit. Barrel-fermented, and aged 19-months in 31% new French oak, the wine reveals a pleasing acidity and subtle complexity, counterpointed by a refinement that foretells its handsome development in the cellar. Noting the delineated balance of this wine from start-to-finish; we may think of the remarkably talented singer-songwriter, Sara Bareilles, who compels us to “*Breathe Again*”. Savoring the wine just so, we think you will happily oblige.

The Charles Heintz Vineyard is located in Occidental, near the rocky Sonoma County coastline. The 30-year-old Chardonnay vines are planted on deep, desirable Gold Ridge Sandy Loam top-soils – to which many attribute the unique varietal expression shown by Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grown in the Sonoma Coast and Russian River appellations. The nearby Pacific brings deep and cooling fog over the vineyard nightly during the growing season, encouraging patient ripening and the development of delicate flavors.

Winemaker: Philippe Melka, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and— recently heralded by Robert Parker as one of the top nine winemakers in the world. “*Where possible, I will minimize winemaking techniques in the cellar so I can create a wine that tells the story of the vineyard. In the end, it must be about the fruit.*”

Wine Facts

Varietal Composition:	100% Chardonnay
Vineyards:	Charles Heintz Vineyards, Sonoma Coast
Production:	323 cases
Harvest Date:	September 23, 2016
Cooperage:	31% new French oak: Francois Freres, Rousseau, Damy
Bottle Date:	March 21, 2018
Release Date:	May 15, 2018

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