

# Racines

## 2019 STA. RITA HILLS CHARDONNAY



Racines is a collaboration by two classic houses from France, led by Etienne de Montille and Brian Sieve of Burgundy and Rodolphe Peters of Champagne. The team came together to join their individual experiences in hand-crafting wines of purity and transparency to create a range of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from the cool climate of the Sta. Rita Hills in California.

### VINEYARD

A blend of chardonnay from the sites we work with in the Santa Rita Hills, the majority coming from La Mesa Vineyard and the Wenzlau Vineyard. La Mesa Vineyard, which sits to the very western edge of the Sta. Rita Hills, is leased to us by Domaine de La Côte. Wenzlau Vineyard, which is part of our estate holdings, sits surrounded by Rita's Crown, Mt. Carmel, and Sea Smoke Vineyards, on a steep, dramatic hillside just above the Santa Ynez River and across from the famed Sanford & Benedict Vineyard.

### PRODUCTION

The wines were fermented in a combination of 500L puncheons and 228L barriques, resulting in about 10% new wood on the wine. After a little under a year in barrel, the wines and all the lees were moved to tank for an additional five months of cellaring. This is a wine that we believe best represents the potential of the region as a whole.

### ELEVAGE

11 months - 10% new French oak - 5 months in stainless steel

CASES PRODUCED

1667

ALCOHOL

12.7%

SOIL TYPES

Sorento loam

SRP

\$50 USD

The 2019 Chardonnay Sta. Rita Hills cuvée is a wonderful wine and a terrific introduction to the Racines Chardonnays. Creamy and layered in the glass, the 2019 has so much to offer. Lemon confit, white flowers, mint, white pepper and crushed rocks lend brightness and energy. The Sta. Rita Hills cuvée is one of the hidden gems in the range.

92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous