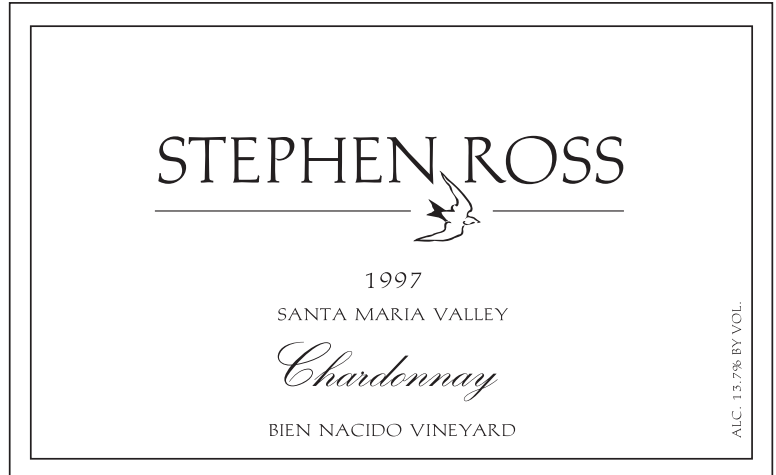


1997

SANTA MARIA VALLEY
CHARDONNAY
BIEN NACIDO VINEYARD



- Harvested by Hand on September 29, 1997
- Whole Cluster Pressed, Juice Chilled and Settled Overnight
- Clarified Juice racked to Barrels, and inoculated for Fermentation.
- 100% Barrel Fermented and 100% Malolactic Fermentation
- 50% New French Oak, a blend of Tonnellerie Sirugue and Damy, and 50% once-used barrels
- Fined lightly with Isinglass and Bentonite
- Bottled unfiltered on August 18, 1998

This wine demonstrates why the Santa Maria Valley is such a great place to grow Chardonnay. It is abundant in fruit and is rich and flavorful on the palate, finishing with good acidity. Stephen Ross produced only four barrels in 1997 due to a low crop yield in the vineyard. The wine is bottled unfiltered which preserves the concentrated fruit, oak, and mineral flavors developed in the vineyard and at the winery.

97 cases produced.