

STEPHEN ROSS



2018

CHARDONNAY, BEE SWEET VINEYARD

EDNA VALLEY

72 Cases | Bottled August 27, 2019

Suggested Retail: \$42

VINEYARD

The Edna Valley is located on the South Central Coast of California next to the town of San Luis Obispo. The valley spans in a north-east-southwest orientation and is open at the Pacific Ocean to the West; it lies in Southern California at 34 degrees latitude and receives an abundance of light from a “directly overhead” sun. The climate is strongly influenced by regular summer-time afternoon cool breezes coming from the Pacific Ocean. This is a unique climate of cool air temperature and intense sunlight.

VINTAGE

The Edna Valley experienced a very cool 2018 season and harvest. In terms of growing degree days (GDD) 2018 was the second coolest growing season in the past 10 years at 2,253 GDD. Only 2010 had fewer GDD at 2,145. During the spring and summer, we had day after day of moderate temperatures peaking just into the low 70s. There were only a few atypical days in July and August with temperatures in the 90s. Furthermore, the harvest weather was ideal with consistent mild temperatures. We had the luxury to bring in fruit at a manageable pace, at ideal sugar and acid levels, over the duration of the long harvest season, starting in late August and continuing into early November.

WINEMAKING

Classic Burgundian winemaking methods were used in making this wine; barrel fermentation, malo-lactic fermentation, lies stirring, and sur lie aging for nine months in French oak barrels.

Vineyard:

Bee Sweet Vineyard, Edna Valley.

Harvest:

Harvested by hand on September 18, 2018

Fermentation:

Whole cluster pressed in a membrane press, juice chilled and settled overnight

Cultured yeast and naturally occurring malolactic bacteria.

100% barrel fermented and 100% malolactic fermentation

Aging:

Non-filtered, Aged for 9 months in oak.

33% new Tonnellerie Sirugue French oak barrels,

67% two-year-old French oak barrels

Alcohol:

13.8%

pH:

3.42

T.A.:

5.6g/L



TASTING NOTES

Clear and pale straw in color. Initial perfume of toasted oak, mace, nutmeg, graham, and a teensy hint of butterscotch, unfolding to ripe pear, green apple, mango and graphite. Full, rich and creamy. Still a youngster, bottled in August 2019.