

# LITTLE ENGINE

W I N E S

## 2017 SILVER CHARDONNAY



Production: 647 cases  
Alcohol: 13.4%  
pH: 3.33

### VITICULTURE NOTES

The 2017 season was challenging at times, marked by a wet start, followed by significant heat and then intermittent stretches of hazy skies. Bud break was about the 3rd week of April and we had vigorous vine growth through June/ July. Humidity was an issue and therefore canopy management was key to ensure air flow and give adequate bunch exposure where required. September and October warmed up and were mostly dry, allowing grapes to extend their ripening time on the vine.

Our 2017 Chardonnay consists of grapes harvested from 3 vineyards picked on a range of picking dates, mid to late September, to yield a complexity of flavours and acidity. The fruit is predominantly from our Estate vineyards on the Naramata Bench. Different leaf removal strategies were employed to give a variety of bunch exposure times and subsequent flavour development. Crop levels were kept low at 3 tons per acre.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

The various Chardonnay lots were hand harvested and either whole cluster pressed or pressed after overnight skin contact, settled and fermented in stainless steel tanks and a variety of new and seasoned French oak barrels. Fermentations were long and cool to preserve aromatics. A variety of yeasts were used to encourage complexity of flavours. The final blend includes 48% barrel fermented (25% new) and matured on lees for 6 months with batonnage for palate development.

### TASTING NOTES & SUGGESTED CELLARING

A unique combination of winemaking and barrel treatment impart aromas of nearly ripe white peaches and pears, lemon curd, and white tea. This partially-oaked style welcomes an intriguing dynamic on the palate, starting with fresh lemon, white grapefruit, subtle minerality with bright acidity; followed by lingering silkiness and a soft, lengthy, cashew finish that will become more pronounced over time.

Best enjoyed upon release through 2023 under ideal cellaring conditions.

### CULINARY INSPIRATION

A versatile wine for a variety of dishes such as classic fresh summer bounty, and roasted pork tenderloin with a tarragon dry rub.