

LITTLE ENGINE

W I N E S

2018 FRENCH FAMILY RELEASE CHARDONNAY



Production: 271 cases
Alcohol: 13.2%
pH: 3.36

VITICULTURE NOTES

The 2018 growing season started with bud break in late April. Vine growth was rapid and ample due to wet soils from a heavy snow pack. Canopy management was crucial immediately afterwards and throughout the season to create airflow through the vines and amongst the clusters as humidity was a recurring issue.

Hazy skies in August and a cooler than normal September delayed ripening for some varietals but encouraged optimal levels of natural acidity for Chardonnay. October was dry and mild.

The fruit for this wine is 100% Naramata Bench and was sourced from 2 of our vineyards. The grapes for this wine were harvested at different times, late September and early October, based on flavours in the vineyard. This encourages complexity in flavours and acidity. Different leaf removal strategies were employed to give a variety of bunch exposure times and subsequent flavour development.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The fruit is hand harvested then allowed to cool overnight. Grapes are either whole cluster pressed or de-stemmed and cold soaked for 12 – 16 hours and then pressed. Free and press run juices are kept separate. This Chardonnay is 100% stainless steel tank fermented using a variety of yeasts, to create a complexity of flavours and aromatic esters.

TASTING NOTES & SUGGESTED CELLARING

Little Engine's French Family Release Chardonnay showcases stony minerality throughout – classically reminiscent of northern Burgundy Chablis. Summer floral notes, aromas of apricot, lemon & mandarin orange lead into a fresh palate of white peach & nectarine and hints of lime & honey, all structured with vibrant acidity.

Best enjoyed now through 2022.

CULINARY INSPIRATION

BC Heirloom Tomato Salad with Natural Pastures Bocconcini di Bufala, Cold Pressed Little Engine Grapeseed Oil and Venturi Schulze Balsamic Vinegar.

~or~

Fresh shucked Royal Miyagi and Kusshi oysters with Chardonnay mignonette and grated horseradish.