



2016 La Sirena Chardonnay Winemaker Notes/Fact Sheet

Announcing a brand new wine from La Sirena! Although I have made Chardonnay a number of times for my clients over the years, I was not compelled to make our own until a special vineyard site became available in 2016. Well-known vineyard manager Ulises Valdez told me he had a few tons available from the Rued family original vineyard planted in 1969. I was enticed to have a look, and from there our beautiful Chardonnay was born. We hope you enjoy this special bottling of the region's most beloved white varietal.

Just the Facts:

Harvest Date: September 15, 2016

Blend: 100% Chardonnay Russian River Valley, Sonoma County appellation

Some Chemistry: 13.23% alc. T.A. 7.1, pH 3.25

SS drums and French oak barrels 10% new for 8 months

Bottling date: June 19, 2017

Release date: September 14, 2018

Production: 173 cases

Tasting Notes: 2016 Chardonnay (tasted 9/11/18 by HPB)

The first release of a very special Chardonnay from the original planting of the Rued clone. These vines were planted in 1969 and are magnificent, with large gnarly trunks and arms. The wine they produce is quite refined, golden light straw in color with aromas of apples, pears, lemon, and floral honeysuckle notes. The clone is known for its somewhat tropical aromatics - some even refer to it as the Muscat clone of Chardonnay. This one just hints at pineapple with a kiss of delicate French oak. Flavors are bright and clean across the palate with green apple, lemon and pomelo-like fruit character. Lower alcohol (13.2) and crisp acidity make for a delightful fresh old-vine Chardonnay of pure character.

Why "**La Sirena**"? The name means "the Mermaid" in Spanish and Italian. I chose it because I'm a long time scuba diver and was looking for something fun and magical (like wine) to name the winery. The first vintage of La Sirena was 1994, with the first Cabernet Sauvignon made in 1996. The wines we currently make are **Chardonnay**, **Cabernet Sauvignon**, **Le Barretage** (Rhône style blend), **Moscato Azul** (dry Muscat Canelli), **Grenache**, **Malbec**, **Rosato** (rose of Primitivo) and our two proprietary red blends; **Art Bus**, and **Pirate TreasuRed**. Production is always small, focusing on fine wines of purity and excellence - the best that can be made. And wines I personally like to drink. Wishing you all the best, and as always, thank you for supporting our wines!

Heidi Peterson Barrett

Winemaker/ Owner, La Sirena