

# Thomas Fogarty



Few wine regions on earth can match Santa Cruz Mountains' climates, soils and vertigo inspiring views. Set high in the mountains overlooking California's Silicon Valley, the Thomas Fogarty Winery has been making single-vineyard Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Merlot and Cabernet from the SCM appellation since 1981. Fogarty's two estates are divided into micro-vineyards, ranging from .25 to 5.25 acres, based on soil and topography. All are maritime (10-18 miles to Pacific), cool-climate (Regions I and II), high-elevation (1600-2300 feet), low yielding (1-3 tons per acre) and mountainous. The winery was founded by Dr. Thomas Fogarty, a Stanford cardiovascular surgeon and world-renowned inventor.

## 2014 ESTATE CHARDONNAY

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

### VINTAGE

2014 was the second consecutive drought vintage and featured the earliest harvesting in our 30+ year history. Early bud-break and flowering combined with relatively warm weather throughout the growing season led to rapid development of sugar and flavor in many vineyards. Consequently we had tremendous ripeness at low sugars which produced wines with bright acidity and ample structure.

### VINEYARD

Our 2014 Santa Cruz Mountains Chardonnay is entirely from our vineyards: both the Winery Estate and our more southerly property, Gist Ranch. The Winery Estate provides the base of the blend and defines it's bright, cool-climate character – think citrus and mineral elements. The warmer Gist Ranch provides some depth of fruit and weight.

### WINEMAKING

Cold, whole-cluster pressing, no settling, barrel fermentation with native yeast and spontaneous malolactic fermentations highlight the wonderful purity inherent in our Santa Cruz Mountains Estate, Chardonnay. This 'hand off' approach in the cellar is allows for maximum site expression. The '14 vintage was aged in 24% new, three year air-dried French Oak barrels, sur-lie with no batonage. Following a year in oak the majority of the blend was racked, with its lees, to steel tanks for another 6 months to allow for continued harmonization.

### TASTING NOTES

Our Estate Chardonnay is all about bright citrus fruit and mineral flavors that define our cool, maritime, mountainous site. Hallmarks of Santa Cruz Mountains Chardonnay from the northern end of the appellation, where our vineyards lie, are focused citrus fruit, white flowers and great concentration. The '14 vintage has great depth of flavor, balancing acidity and underlying minerality; this is serious site driven Chardonnay.

### TECHNICAL DATA

#### APPELLATION

100% Santa Cruz Mountains

#### VINEYARDS

89% Winery Estate (64% Langley Hill, 18% Damiana, 4% Portola Springs, 3% Albutom) & 11% Gist Ranch Estate

#### COMPOSITION

100% Chardonnay

#### ALCOHOL

13.7% ABV

#### CLONES

115

#### pH

3.43

#### TA

0.56 g/100mL

#### CASES

1944 x 750mL