

Thomas Fogarty



2021 Summer Wine Release: Six Bottle Membership - Chardonnay

2019 Damiana Vineyard Chardonnay (2 Bottles)

Our oldest vineyard, planted in 1978, often produces our densest and most opulent Chardonnay. It's exposure is primarily southwestern, which can mean more, which can mean more sun during the growing season; though this site is heavily influenced by maritime breeze most afternoons. Shallow top soils of fractured Lambert shale and mudstone limit vigor and lead to wines with great concentration and intensity.

Vintage: The 2019 vintage will go down as a classic year in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Some unsettled weather in the spring resulted in poor flowering, lower yields in some blocks. The summer was warm, but not oppressively so- the lack of extreme heat events was a welcome change. Harvest began in mid September, finishing up in mid to late October – relatively late compared to the recent string of early harvests. The wines are concentrated with a fine balance of structure and fruit intensity. Site expression seems amplified; low yields and moderate temperatures often lead to some of our most singular and terroir driven wines. The wines drink surprisingly well in their youth and have all the components for a long life ahead. The only downside to the year are yields; the wines will be sought after and rare.

Tasting Note: Damiana Vineyard Chardonnay reveals minerality, tart citrus and tropical fruit characteristics, and has vibrant acidity and terrific balance.

Member Price: \$54.40

Retail Price: \$68

2017 Langley Hill Vineyard Chardonnay (2 Bottles)

Langley Hill is our largest plot of Estate Chardonnay. It occupies a steep hillside, offering numerous exposures and soil depths. This complex arrangement leads to multiple picks often spread over weeks, rather than days. Langley Hill's is often both the first and last of our Chardonnays to be picked. The vineyard's fractured sandstone over Lambert shale yields Chardonnay that is steely and structured with persistent citrus and mineral flavors.

Vintage: The 2017 vintage was another year of record setting heat, continuing our string of record setting temperatures. Luckily, Spring was mild and allowed us to set the best crop we have seen since 2012. A torrid heat spike over the labor day started the growing season with a bang and had us off and running at sprinter's pace. The weather following was mild and allowed for the latest harvest we have seen in some time.

Tasting Note: 2017 vintage opens with citrus blossoms and shows bright stone fruits with layered mineral tones.

93 points, Wine Advocate

Member Price: \$54.40

Retail Price: \$68

2017 Portola Springs Vineyard Chardonnay (2 Bottles)

Our steepest and most "extreme" site for Chardonnay, the Portola Springs Vineyard produces structured and precise Chardonnay. The soil is heavily streaked with basalt, the volcanic nature of these soils give the wine a freshness and linear nature that is decidedly different than much of the Estate. These meager soils and extreme exposure leads to a very unique expression of California Chardonnay. This is always one of the last blocks to be picked at the winery.

Vintage: The 2017 vintage was another year of record setting heat, continuing our string of record setting temperatures. Luckily, Spring was mild and allowed us to set the best crop we have seen since 2012. A torrid heat spike over the labor day started the growing season with a bang and had us off and running at sprinter's pace. The weather following was mild and allowed for the latest harvest we have seen in some time.

Tasting Note: The wines have the purity and focus we see in the best vintages. The fruit character is perfectly pitched and balanced by bright acidity and moderate ripeness.

92 points, Vinous

Member Price: \$54.40

Retail Price: \$68