

MARINE LAYER

W I N E S

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2022 ARIES

CHARDONNAY

**VARIETAL**

Chardonnay

VINTAGE

2022

ALCOHOL

13.5%

REGION

Sonoma Coast AVA

CLONE

Wente & Montrachet

VITICULTURAL AREA

The 2022 Aries Chardonnay is a thoughtfully crafted selection of barrels sourced from our premier single vineyard Chardonnays, showcasing the finest expressions from key sub-AVAs within the revered Sonoma Coast. Included are key vineyard sites in the Green Valley and Petaluma Gap sub-AVAs, complemented by our very own Marine Layer Vineyard Chardonnay nestled in the Sebastopol Hills. These sites, characterized by their foggy, cool evenings, distinctive microclimates, and varied soil compositions, collectively define the sought-after terroir of the Sonoma Coast. Bright and vibrant, yet mineral-driven and nuanced.

VINIFICATION

Hand-picked at night, whole cluster direct to press. Cold settled for 24 hours, then put into oak puncheon and barrel, 25% new. Cool native ferment at 58–60°F for 10–14 days. Spontaneous/native fermentation; the wine undergoes 100% malolactic. Gentle lees stirring once per month. After aging 11 months, the blend is assembled and racked gently to tank. Unfined and lightly filtered.

TASTING NOTES

With a brilliant pale straw hue that catches the eye, the 2022 Aries offers an aromatic bouquet that practically dances from the glass, evoking notes of zesty lemon curd and delicate jasmine blooms. Upon tasting, it dazzles the palate with a vibrant display of citrus fruits, white peach, and the refreshing essence of lime leaves, all seamlessly mingling with a persistent stony minerality. Balanced by a lively acidity, it reveals a subtle whisper of graham cracker crust, a testament to its careful barrel aging.

"A bright straw siler hue, the 2022 Chardonnay Aries comes from the Hawk Hill, Gaps Crown, Durell, and Marine Layer vineyards, as well as a couple other small parcels, and it sees about 20% new oak. Fresh and floral in the glass, it's showing notes of fresh pear, poached lemon, and wet stone. Medium to full-bodied, it retains good richness while feeling linear and citrus-driven, and it has a core of concentration with a long, lightly pithy finish. It's very well-styled, and I continue to be impressed with these wines. Drink this over the next 5-7 years."

-Audrey Frick, Jeb Dunnuck

93 points



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