

Thomas Fogarty



2020 Damiana Vineyard Chardonnay

Vintage



Santa Cruz Mountain AVA



Elevation:
1930 feet



3.41



Heavily fractured
lambert shale,
mudstone

%

13% Alcohol



Composition:
100% Chardonnay

295 Cases
Produced

Winegrower: Nathan Kandler
Vineyard Manager: Julio Deras

A mostly mild but dry season was permeated by dry lightning and wind on August 16th, igniting the CZU complex fire, which burned to within 10 miles of the winery. Smoke originally blew towards the coast but changed direction after the first week of the fire, enveloping the vineyards and affecting the character of the fruit. We made the gut-wrenching decision that no red wine was to be bottled from the vintage, as the compounds contained within the skins and the wines were displaying very characteristic smoky flavors and texture. We harvested a few early lots to make test wines, but they were tainted beyond repair. In lieu of delayed analytical results across the state, we made micro fermentations (large buckets of fermenting grapes) of all lots, performed sensory analysis and determined the red wines were not going to be viable. We did conclude that if we were careful in pressing (using lower pressure in the press and pressing the grapes immediately) we could make white wines that escaped the smoky characteristics found in the reds. While our losses in the vineyard pale in comparison to the loss of home and life from the fire, it was a heartbreaking year nonetheless.

Vineyard

Our oldest vineyard -- planted in 1978 -- often produces our densest and most opulent Chardonnay. Its exposure is primarily southwestern, which can mean more sun during the growing season, though this site is heavily influenced by the maritime breeze most afternoons. Shallow top soils of fractured Lambert shale and mudstone limit vigor and lead to wines with great concentration and intensity. This is one of the first Estate Chardonnay vineyards that we pick.

Tasting Notes

Chalky and grippy textures with aromas of baked lemon, macadamia nut, and sea salt. Balanced with acidity and tropical fruit.



19501 Skyline Boulevard
Woodside, CA 94062

For tasting reservations, visit our website at
www.fogartywinery.com or call 650-851-6777



For mobile users click [here](#)



Scan for video of
Winegrower commentary