

Leo Steen Wines

2017 Jurassic Park Vineyard, Chenin Blanc - Santa Ynez Valley

Release Date: Spring 2020

Production: 168 cases

Vineyard: Planted in 1982, the sustainably farmed Jurassic Vineyard in Santa Ynez Valley is situated on rolling hills at an elevation of approximately 1,100 feet. The vineyard takes its name from the site's fossil-rich soils. These well-drained, limestone-laden sandy soils produce small vines and clusters. Jurassic's own-rooted Chenin Blanc vines produce a beautifully textured wine with abundant minerality and exotic fruit.

Harvest: Though yields were relatively low and harvest on the early side, 2017 produced a great growing season. We hand harvested our Jurassic Park Chenin Blanc on September 30th bringing a beautiful concentration of flavors and texture to the wine.

Fermentation: This wine underwent a few hours of skin contact before being whole cluster pressed and fermented in a concrete egg, using spontaneous yeast.

Cellar Notes: Because our goal is to spotlight the age-worthy complexity of Jurassic's fruit, this wine spent 11 months in a concrete egg before being transferred to neutral oak for five more months prior to bottling. To allow the wine ample time to evolve and integrate, it was given an additional twelve months of aging in bottle.

Technical Notes:

Alcohol: 13.5 %

pH: 3.39

Total acid: 6.3 g/l

Malolactic fermentation: 100%

Tasting Notes: This wine begins with a beautiful nose of candied kumquats, honeycomb and spiced apple. On the palate, an almost architectural streak of acidity adds poise and length to flavors of almond paste, baked apple, and marzipan all of which carry through to a long, complex and creamy finish in an oxidative style.

Vision: In contrast to the bright, vibrant and youthful character of our Saini Chenin Blanc, our Jurassic Chenin Blanc showcases the texture and complexity that can be achieved when this variety is given time to age. With its old vines and ideal soils, Jurassic is the perfect vineyard for this alluring style of Chenin Blanc.