

Winemaker Notes

Type:	Chardonnay "Dell Valley Vineyard"
VINTAGE:	2019
APPELLATION:	100% Dell Valley Vineyard, Texas
ALCOHOL:	14.5%
pH:	3.41
ACIDITY:	6.3 g/L
RESIDUAL SUGAR:	2.1 g/L (dry)
OAKING:	Fermentation and storage for over 12 months in once used French Oak 500 liter puncheon from Nadalié cooperage.



Bottling date: 11/17/20

Cases produced: 50

The 2019 Dell Valley Vineyard Chardonnay is composed of 100% Chardonnay all sourced from the Dell Valley Vineyard in the far West Texas town of Dell City. We've been purchasing Chardonnay from this vineyard for over 20 years and continue to be amazed by the unique saline characteristic that the limestone soils impart on the grapes, and thus resulting wines, from this site. The grapes were harvested at a peak ripeness of 23 brix in mid to late August 2019. The grapes were received at the winery in the early morning and were gently pressed to extract only about 80% of the available juice to avoid any bitter or harsh tannin from the seeds. The juice was able to gravity settle overnight and then transferred to large French oak barrels to begin its primary fermentation. The new wine was then aged on its lees (the fermentation sediment) for over 12 months in the same barrels it was fermented in to enhance mouth texture, complexity, and aroma. This wine fully completed a secondary fermentation (Malolactic fermentation) which also contributes to the luscious texture while adding multiple levels of complex aromatics.

This release is a medium bodied white wine that is drinking wonderfully now and will improve in complexity from additional bottle aging through 2022. Aromatic features include aromas from citrus oil, butter, & spice, to Bartlett pears, and crème brûlée. When serving with food consider richly textured seafood dishes such as salmon, halibut, sea bass, crab legs, or lobster. As well as herbed chicken dishes, enchiladas, and rich soups.