



2023 ESTATE CHARDONNAY

Sta. Rita Hills

In 1997, we acquired and developed the *Evan's Ranch Vineyard* in the western Santa Ynez Valley, with the planting of fifty-four acres of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Syrah, several years ahead of what was to become the Sta. Rita Hills, the most exciting cold-climate region in California. We further added to our Sta. Rita Hills' holdings in 2009 with the planting of forty-four acres of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir at *Rancho Esperanza Vineyard* on the northwestern side of the appellation.

Because of the region's east-west mountain orientation, *refrigerated-sunlight* growing conditions are created, setting a perfect scenario for growing beautifully intense fruit, that preserves the vibrancy, complexity and elegance associated with the greatest wines in the world.

The Estate Chardonnay is 100% grown, produced and bottled. It is combination of eight different Chardonnay selections and from our two cold-climate Estate vineyards in the Sta. Rita Hills. The soils are on beach sand providing very lifted aromatics. The wine is mostly barrel-fermented to capture richness and complexity from oak but a small portion is fermented in stainless steel to keep the precision and energy in the wine.

<i>Harvest Dates</i>	<i>October 2 – October 12</i>
<i>Composition</i>	<i>100% Chardonnay</i> <i>50% Rancho Esperanza Vineyard</i> <i>50% Evan's Ranch Vineyard</i>
<i>Winemaking</i>	<i>Barrel Fermented, Barrel and Stainless Aged; 10 months in 23% new French oak, 77% neutral</i>
<i>Bottled</i>	<i>June 23, 2025</i>
<i>Alcohol</i>	<i>13.9%</i>
<i>Total Acidity, pH</i>	<i>7.1 grams/liter, 3.38 pH</i>

Tasting Notes

Lovely straw yellow and bright gold color. Aromatically vibrant with intense yellow citrus and saline elements mixed with opulent hints of honeysuckle, brioche and honey. Softer aromas of sage, lemon pie, marzipan, almond sliver and lime zest. Medium weight with great restraint, vivacity and expansive mouthfeel. A terrific drinking and food-friendly Chardonnay from an excellent year. 5,278 cases. \$26 per bottle.

Farming since 1962. Winemaking since 1984



Gainey Estate Vineyards
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