

# Ernest Vineyards

## *Fallenleaf Vineyard*

### *Chardonnay / 2019*

#### *Sonoma Coast*

**THE VINEYARD:** Located on the top of the Eastern slope of the Sonoma ridge overlooking the town of Sonoma, Fallenleaf Vineyard is an 8-acre gem planted to Old Wente Chardonnay. Owner Harry Cohn works tirelessly with Atlas Vineyard Management to methodically produce a stellar crop year after year. Established before today's modern skinny tractors, the low yields of wide rows are compensated for with a unique double trunk / mid-wire cordon system that can only work in a well-ventilated, cool hillside site like this one.

**WINEMAKING:** The growing season was marked by a warm early summer and very mild temperatures after Labor Day. The cool end of season allowed for more flavor development on this windswept, northeastern facing hillside. Harvested in mid September, the wine was fermented entirely in 500L Puncheons at cool temperatures. Long, naturally occurring primary and malolactic fermentations slowly built the texture of this wine. Aged for 14 months on lees and another four months in vessel this wine was bottled unfined and unfiltered with minimal effective sulfur.

**TASTING NOTES:** A beautiful bright and pale yellow wine, clear with shades of vintage gold. On the nose, a hint of white flowers, pears and pink lady apples with clear mineral notes of river pebbles and cut granite. On the palate a refreshing expression of the grape: a fruit profile consistent with the aromas and a pleasant acidity. The finish lingers on the palate with a clean and thirst-quenching profile.

**ALC. BY VOL:** 12.7%

**AGING:** 36% NEW FRENCH OAK

**CLONES:** OLD WENTE

**WINEMAKER:** JOSEPH RYAN

**CASES PRODUCED:** 175

**HARVEST DATE:** 9/12/19

**HARVEST BRIX:** 21.3

