



2016 "La Masía" Chardonnay, Don Miguel Vineyard Estate Grown, Estate Bottled

Why "La Masía"?

La Masía means *The Farmhouse* in Catalonia, my home region, as our winery is designed to resemble a classic Catalan farmhouse. My family has grown grapes in Spain since the 17th century and our philosophy has always been to produce a wine as an extension of farming the vineyard.

The Don Miguel Vineyard

Named after the late patriarch of the Torres family, this sustainable vineyard is located in the Green Valley — the coolest, foggiest region of the Russian River Valley, only ten miles from the Pacific. Planted in the European-style high density of over 2,000 vines/acre, the yields are low and labor is intensive; but the vines live longer and the grapes acquire better balance and greater concentration, as well as more elegance and finesse.

The Vinification

The grapes were harvested September 5 - 12, then gently whole-cluster pressed and barrel fermented, using our own indigenous yeast, in premium French oak barrels, 60% new; those coopered by Damy were from the forest of Allier and by Rousseau from the center of France. After undergoing 100% malolactic fermentation, the wine was aged on its lees for ten months and bottled in August 2017.

The Clones

The vineyard's 30 acres of Chardonnay are planted with three different clones. The blend of clones in the 2016 vintage is 58% Spring Mountain, 32% Rued, and 10% See.

Tasting Notes

This bottling shows intense nose of stone fruit and baked apple, nicely framed with the toasty oak that contributes elegant notes of hazelnut. The palate is crisp, yet creamy and full-bodied, with great balance between the fresh acidity and the richness of the fruit. I would recommend serving it at 46°- 48° F.

Marimar Torres Founder & Proprietor

424 cases produced (in 9L units)