

2016

## CHARDONNAY Sonoma Coast



PATZ & HALL



### VINTAGE NOTES

2016 was another fantastic growing season. It started out with good winter rainfall, which after four years of drought, was a big relief. While the summer of 2016 was quite hot, a perfectly timed cool-down over a three-week period in August allowed the grapes to ripen with moderate sugar levels. It also preserved the acidity that is so essential to making great Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Thus, the quality is exceptional with vivid, alluring flavors in the Chardonnays and deep colors and gorgeous aromatics in the Pinot Noir.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2016 offering is richer and denser than the 2015, and is our most diverse blend of small family-owned vineyards – with some new sites added for the first time. This wine is a true collection of single vineyards that could all be bottled on their own including; Sanchietti Vineyard, Gap's Crown Vineyard, Zio Tony Ranch, Dutton Ranch and Durell Vineyard. On the nose, aromas of dried orange peel, roasted almond, lemon sugar cookie and green apple are nicely supported by spicy French oak shadings. The mouthfeel is crisp and juicy with cascading, mouthwatering flavors of spicy pear, lime zest, yeast and toffee. The finish is long and focused by crisp acidity leading to lingering flavors that keep pumping.

### WINEMAKING

- 100% Chardonnay fruit
- 100% Whole cluster pressed
- 100% indigenous yeast fermentations
- *Sur lie* aged with weekly stirring
- 100% malolactic fermentation in barrel
- 32% new Burgundian French oak barrels
- Sterile filtered prior to bottling

RELEASE DATE: FEBRUARY 2018

LABEL ALCOHOL: 14.2%

### THE PATZ & HALL FAMILY OF WINEGROWERS

Building on the belief that great wines capture the essence of great vineyards, for three decades Patz & Hall has been seeking out the very best small, family-owned Chardonnay and Pinot Noir vineyards in California. Over the years, this exploration has taken us ever-further west as the Sonoma Coast has emerged as California's preeminent winegrowing regions for Burgundian varietals. Incorporating grapes from such renowned vineyards as Gap's Crown, Sanchietti Vineyard, Zio Tony Ranch, Dutton Ranch and Durell Vineyard, this wine spotlights the structure and sophistication of its cool-climate origins, with the unmistakable purity of fruit that defines exceptional Sonoma Coast Chardonnay.

*James Hall*  
JAMES HALL | Winemaker

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