

# STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS

## 2017 RANCHO CHIMILES SAUVIGNON BLANC

Vineyard-designated Sauvignon Blancs are rare, but Rancho Chimiles, the source for this wine is deserving of the honor. Terrence Wilson, owner of Rancho Chimiles and one of our longtime friends, is a meticulous grower whose philosophy of farming matches our own. Fruit from Rancho Chimiles has always been an integral part of our Napa Valley Sauvignon Blanc, but we also produce small quantities of this single vineyard wine for our wine club members and winery visitors.

### VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING

Tucked into the hills of Wooden Valley northeast of the town of Napa, the Rancho Chimiles vineyard is influenced by nearby San Pablo Bay, which funnels cool air and fog into the area in the evening and early morning hours. But at an elevation of 615 feet, the vineyard also receives plenty of sunshine. By carefully controlling the vigor of the vines, Wilson produces fruit with a focused core of racy, citrus notes and minerality. These characteristics are carefully nurtured in the winery by foregoing malolactic fermentation and by aging the wine in a combination of new French Acacia barrels and previously filled (two to three-year-old) barrels.

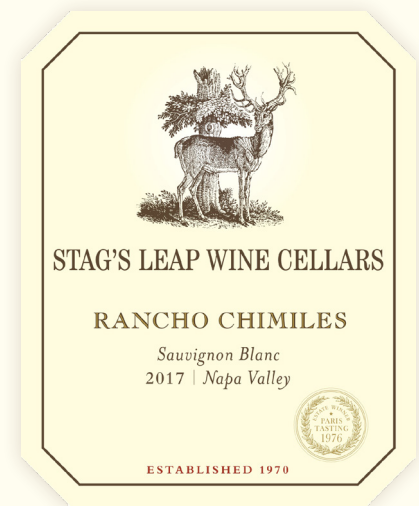
### VINTAGE

The 2017 vintage was a memorable one with more than its fair share of historic challenges – but it resulted in very high-quality fruit at lower yields. We started with a wet winter that brought much-needed water after several years of drought. Spring and summer temperatures alternated between unusually cool and unusually hot with a record-breaking heat wave over Labor Day weekend. Just as harvest was reaching its final crescendo, on October 8th tragic wildfires broke out that burned throughout Napa and Sonoma counties. At Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, the Atlas Peak fire burned right down to the edge of the vineyards. Thankfully the vineyard served as a giant fire break and the winery was undamaged and our employees were safe. The Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc have nice aromas and flavors and the Cabernet Sauvignon has richer fruit with good texture.

### WINE

Fragrant and inviting, this single-vineyard Sauvignon Blanc has aromas of tangerine, guava, lemongrass and boxwood. The wine is medium-bodied and richly-textured with hints of pineapple, citrus and caramel. The wine has bright acidity and a lingering finish.

This wine is made in a richer style than AVETA Sauvignon Blanc, Napa Valley.. Enjoy with summertime favorites such as fresh oysters, a mixed green salad with fresh crab and grapefruit, seared scallops with mango and avocado relish or grilled peaches with prosciutto drizzled with aged balsamic vinegar.



<b>HARVEST DATES:</b>	<i>Aug. 29-30, 2017</i>
<b>ALCOHOL:</b>	<i>14.5%</i>
<b>PH:</b>	<i>3.48</i>
<b>TA:</b>	<i>0.58 g/100ml</i>
<b>FERMENTATION:</b>	<i>85% fermented in stainless steel; 15% barrel fermented in older French oak barrels</i>
<b>MALOLACTIC FERMENTATION:</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>BARREL AGING:</b>	<i>10 months sur lies 15% New Acacia barrels, 85% previously filled French oak barrels</i>
<b>BLEND:</b>	<i>51% Sauvignon Musque (a clonal variant of Sauvignon Blanc), 49% Sauvignon Blanc</i>
<b>APPELLATION:</b>	<i>Napa Valley</i>
<b>CASES PRODUCED:</b>	<i>257 Cases</i>
<b>SUGGESTED RETAIL:</b>	<i>\$40 per bottle</i>
<b>RELEASE DATE:</b>	<i>May 2019</i>

Marcus Notaro  
WINEMAKER