Llano Estacado Winery Winemakers Notes

Type: Cellar Reserve Chardonnay

VINTAGE: 2018

APPELLATION: 100% Dell Valley Ranch Vineyard, Dell City, Texas

ALCOHOL: 14.4%

pH: 3.47

ACIDITY: 7.5 g/L

RESIDUAL SUGAR: 0 g/L (dry)

OAKING: Over 6 months in 50% new French Oak 500 liter puncheons

from Demptos, Leroi, Nadalié, and Baron cooperage.

UPC NUMBER: 0-88596-10406-7 TIE/PALLET: 5

750ML BOTTLES/CASE: 12 CASES/TIES: 14

CASES/PALLET: 70 WEIGHT LBS/CS: 37

The 2018 Cellar Reserve Chardonnay is comprised of 100% Chardonnay all sourced from the Dell Valley Ranch Vineyard in the far west Texas town of Dell City. To showcase the lush, fruity and citrus aromatic components, the juice was cold fermented in stainless steel tanks until *almost* devoid of all sugar. The almost dry juice was transferred to a combination of new and used 500-L barrels called *Puncheons* to finish its primary fermentation. The new wine was then aged on its lees (the fermentation sediment) for over 6 months in puncheons to enhance mouth texture, complexity, and aroma. This wine has partially completed secondary malo-lactic fermentation, which also contributes to the luscious texture while adding multiple levels of complex aromatics.

This release is a medium bodied white wine that is drinking wonderfully now and will improve in complexity from additional bottle aging through 2021. Aromatic features include aromas from citrus oil, butter, & spice, to Bartlett pears, and crème brûlée. When serving with food consider richly textured seafood dishes such as salmon, halibut, sea bass, crab legs, or lobster. For something different, try pairing it with spicy Indian cuisine.