



## **Lindquist 2023 Chardonnay – Bien Nacido Vineyard Santa Maria Valley**

This wine is 92% Chardonnay from Bien Nacido Vineyard in the Santa Maria Valley, 5% Chardonnay from the Reeves Vineyard in the Edna Valley and 3% Viognier from Bien Nacido.

2023 was an outstanding vintage here on the Central Coast. We finally got a tremendous amount of rain in the Winter and Spring, ending what had been a 10-year drought period. This was followed by a long cool growing season, with perfect ripening conditions in the Fall.

The Chardonnay grapes were harvested between October 18<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> (about a month later than normal) at sugar levels ranging from 21.8° to 24.1° brix with balanced natural acidity. They were whole cluster pressed, chilled overnight, then racked straight to barrel with most of the solids for fermentation. About 25% new Francois Freres French Burgundy barrels were used, along with about 25% two-year-old of the same barrels, the balance were neutral barrels. The wine went through complete malo in the barrel and was aged on the lees for 9 months before blending and bottling in July 2024.

This is classic Bien Nacido Chardonnay, with hints of minerals, apple, pear and tropical notes. The oak component is well integrated and adds the right complexity and richness. It is full in the mouth, with nice acidity and freshness. This wine will age well but is bottled under Stelvin screw cap for easy access and immediate enjoyment!

Bob Lindquist  
August 2024

**\*92-93 Antonio Galloni VINOUS**