



LA FOLLETTE

AN ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH SINGULAR VINEYARDS

2017 LORENZO CHARDONNAY

Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

VINEYARD STORY

Phyllis and John Bazzano have been taking care of this site named after John's grandfather from the beginning. Because of this stewardship, during the replanting due to phylloxera in the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Bazzanos were able to retain their Old Wente clone on AxRI rootstock. Today, they boast some of the oldest Chardonnay plantings in California. The vine development is intense, resulting in astonishing flavors. We are privileged to produce this wine.

THE PLACE

Vineyard Size: 10 acres

Soil Type: Heavy Clay Loam,
Huichica

Elevation: 70'

Clone: Old Wente

Rootstock: AxRI

Aspect: North-South

Spacing: 8' x 12'

Year Planted: 1974

WINEMAKING

Harvest Pick: September 7, 2017

Whole-cluster pressing

No sulphur added prior to fermentation

100% native yeast primary fermentation

100% wild malolactic fermentation

Bottled: August 9, 2019

11 months in low toast, air-dry 3-year-old
French oak, 38% new

CHEMISTRY

ABV: 14.1 | pH: 3.29 | TA: 6.57

SENSORY

The vineyard's location in the heart of the Russian River Valley provides a distinct petrichor minerality to the wine – that feeling of rain-washed gravel stones. Minimalist winemaking is evident throughout. Leaving on the lees gives a trace of pencil shaving. Kaffir lime, Meyer lemon, and Asian spice open to a creamy mid-palate. Powerful yet balanced by finesse and restraint, the natural acidity makes this Chardonnay amazingly crisp. The Old Wente clone loves new wood so we opted to use 38% new French oak barrels lending a subtle toastiness of grilled bread and hazelnut. White Burgundy in style, it showcases its Russian River Valley origin beautifully. Will cellar through 2023-2026. Try with Dungeness crab and San Francisco sourdough, vegetable tempura, or halibut with lime zest to bring out the wine's citrus qualities.

CASES

137 | \$50



Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

