

# 2017 DAROW SERIES CHARDONNAY

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**AVA:** *Rogue Valley, Oregon*

## VINEYARD DATA

**Source:** 2Hawk estate, Blocks 3 & 4,  
Clones FPS95, FPS72, & FPS17

**Soil Profile:** Darow silty loam, Padigan  
silty loam, & Carney clayey loam

## WINEMAKING DATA

**Composition:** 100% Chardonnay

**Yeast:** Wild

**Aging:** 11 months sur lies in 50% new,  
50% 2-year-old French oak, 6 months in  
100% stainless steel

## AWARDS

*Wine Enthusiast* - 91 points

*Sunset International Wine Competition* - Gold

*San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition* - Double Gold

*Wine Press Northwest Platinum Judging* - Double Gold

James Suckling - 90 points

TEXSOM International Wine Awards - Silver

Harvest Challenge - Silver

SavorNW Wine Awards - Silver

## VINTAGE

2017 was a lesson in patience coming off record snowfall. What started as a normal, relatively cool spring ended on a warm trend that continued until mid-July, when Mother Nature reminded us of her fickleness. August turned out to be one of the coolest in the last twenty years, allowing our fruit to ripen slowly and evenly.

*Continues on back ...*

## HARVEST DATA

**Dates:** September 8, 18, & 27, 2017

**Brix:** 23.2 **pH:** 3.68 **TA:** 5.81 g/L

## BOTTLING DATA

**Production:** 190 cases

**Bottled:** March 14, 2019

**Released:** November 2019

**Alc.** 13.4% **pH:** 3.66 **TA:** 4.65 g/L

**FSO<sub>2</sub>:** 35 mg/L



Fall continued the cool trend, and—thanks to our perfectly balanced crop load and expert water stress management— we began harvest on September 8, a week later than anticipated. As harvest progressed in unseasonably cool conditions, we became so excited by the flavor development we tasted in the vineyard that we delayed harvest of many blocks until the last possible minute. Our final fruit came in on November 2 with superb ripeness in exquisite condition.

## TASTING NOTES

When a wine's character reveals itself to be deserving of a special distinction, we use the designation "Darow Series" after our estate vineyard's most prevalent soil type. In 2017, we were fortunate to harvest exquisite Chardonnay that we felt was particularly well-suited to barrel fermentation and aging. Following indigenous yeast fermentation, the wine received regular battonage (stirring of the yeast lees) in barrels until being transferred to stainless-steel tanks for six months to facilitate integration of flavors and texture. This wine shows a balance of fleshy ripeness with an elegantly lifted finish that defines Rogue Valley Chardonnay. Pure white peach and quince aromas blend with lime rind and toasted marshmallow flavors on the finish. We think this will hit its stride from 2020 to 2023 and just sing when paired with Dungeness crab cakes and hazelnut butter sauce with lemongrass.



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