



2021 SLH Chardonnay

McIntyre Estate Vineyard
Santa Lucia Highlands

Overview

Steve McIntyre is one of the most knowledgeable viticulturists in California. As owner/operator of Monterey Pacific, he farms 12,000 acres in Monterey County and has planted or farmed nearly one quarter of the vineyards in the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA. The McIntyre Estate Vineyard lies in the “sweet spot” of this rolling, benchland region. It produces incredibly intense and complex Pinot Noirs and well-structured, concentrated Chardonnays. It was among the first properties in the Santa Lucia Highlands to be SIP (Sustainability In Practice) Certified.

Vineyard

All great wines are made in the vineyard. With that in mind, we have created an intensive farming regime that takes full advantage of the weather, soils and exposures at each of our sites. Our vines are all vertical shoot positioned (VSP) with rows oriented along a north/south axis to ensure even sun exposure throughout the day.

Winemaking

At McIntyre our winemaking techniques are minimalistic. Our philosophy of “thoughtful but limited intervention” guarantees that the character and complexity of our fruit is highlighted in all our wines. To ensure a completed and more compelling Chardonnay, we harvested fruit on multiple dates. The early picks contributed refreshing acids, green apple, and ripe pear. The later provided viscosity, citrus, and ripe tropical fruit. Primary and malolactic fermentations were managed naturally using the wild, indigenous yeast strains that thrive in our vineyards.

Steve’s Tasting Notes

Our 2021 SLH Chardonnay has it all: fruit, structure, richness, balance and length. It is the epitome of what the Santa Lucia Highlands can do with this noble variety in a great year. The nose is a mélange of slate, toast and caramel apples. The palate is lush, but refreshing thanks to the firm acidity and underlying minerality. This is a delicious and versatile wine that will pair well with just about any cuisine.

Vital Statistics

Composition	100% Chardonnay
Vineyard	McIntyre Estate Vineyard
AVA	Santa Lucia Highlands
Total Acidity	7.1 grams/100ml
PH	3.15
Alcohol	13.5%
Cases Produced	1140
SRP	\$30

