

# McINTYRE

## 2016 Chardonnay

### Santa Lucia Highlands

#### Overview

As owner/operator of Monterey Pacific, the McIntyre family and their team farm 12,000 acres in Monterey County and have planted or farmed nearly one quarter of the acreage 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 of our wines. To ensure a more complete and compelling Chardonnay, we did multiple pickings at each vineyard site. 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

*2016 turned out to be another exceptional vintage for Santa Lucia Highlands Chardonnay. Unlike the weather that resulted in the short 2015 crop the 2016 vintage was nearly perfect climatically and the wines possess a number of notable attributes. This SLH bottling offers a great overview of our AVA; asian pear and baked apple compliment hints of vanilla wafers, toasted almonds and plenty of tropical fruit. A vibrant silky texture with plenty of crisp acidity, this Chardonnay should continue to evolve and improve over the next few years.*

#### Vital Statistics

Composition	100% Chardonnay
AVA	Santa Lucia Highlands
TA	6.8 grams/100ml
PH	3.33
Alcohol	14.3%
Cases Produced	300
SRP	\$28.00

