

the hilt

2022

The Estate wines are defined by the fruit and flavors of our little southwestern corner of the Sta. Rita Hills. They speak of the nuances and complexities of our properties as a whole. These wines take into account the many aspects, clones, soil types and other properties of our estate. They give us the maximum amount of blending components and, represent the most complete wines in our portfolio.

Matt Dees, Winemaker Notes:

Mango, green melon, honeysuckle, chamomile and wet gravel. Ripe and enticing. Showing off all of its fruit today. Precise and full of energy. Sunlight shining out of the glass. Shows tremendous fruit density and makes it obvious that 2022 was an exceptional chardonnay vintage. Agave and lime zest. So much happening in the foreground and background with this wine. Floral, dense, elegant, fruit-driven and ultimately lifted by piercing acidity. The longest finish I can remember with hints of lightly toasted oak, a touch of malolactic roundness and then fruit that seems to be never-ending. A captivating and delicious expression of our estate vineyards and a phenomenal illustration of how well the different sites can work together in a blend. The Radian electricity is a perfect partner for the mouthwatering stone fruit density of Bentrack. One plus one definitely equals more than two in this case. This rendition has a long life ahead!

Estate Chardonnay

CASES: 2,270
 APPELLATION: Sta. Rita Hills
 ALCOHOL: 13.0%
 VINEYARDS: Bentrack Vineyard (cl. 76, 95),
 Radian Vineyard (cl. 95, 548, Musque)
 BARREL REGIME: 35% new French oak,
 60% neutral French oak,
 5% stainless steel for
 11 months

91 Points

Vinous 7/24

93 Points

Jeb Dunnuck 8/24

94 Points

James Suckling 10/24

