

**VARIETY:**

100% Albariño

APPELLATION:

Monterey, Arroyo Seco

HARVEST DATE:

Oct 28, 2020

ALCOHOL: 12.8%**PH:** 3.32**TA:** 5.3 g/L**AGING:**

100% Stainless steel, 4 months

BOTTLING DATE: Mar 11, 2021**CASES PRODUCED:** 92

2020 ESTATE ALBARIÑO

TASTING NOTES

Originally thought to have been brought to the Iberian Peninsula during the 12th century by Cistercian monks, the name Alba-Riño means “from the Rhine.” Today, Albariño is widely planted in the northwestern part of Spain, the region of Galicia, as well as in the Portuguese Vinho Verde region where it is known as Alvarinho. Foodies adore this most fashionable white grape variety, owing to its preternatural ability to pair with the salty and the spicy (think seafood tapas, ham, prosciutto, smoked salmon, Manchego cheese, capers and oysters). Pure and vibrant, our 2020 vintage has aromas of white peach, crisp grapefruit, pear and honeysuckle with a lovely note of minerality. Fermented and aged in stainless steel to preserve freshness and varietal character, this aromatic white is expressive with mouthwatering acidity and layers of fruit.

VINEYARD

Our half-acre of Albariño is planted on our namesake site, Scheid Vineyard. The Scheid, as it’s called, is located in the Arroyo Seco appellation of Monterey and boasts one of the coolest and longest growing seasons in the state. In other words, a little slice of Albariño heaven, as the cool temps preserve the intense fruit flavors and natural acidity of this fruit.

VINTAGE

The 2020 growing season unfolded with a gentle winter followed by spring rains and moderate temperatures. Lovely 85°F days and cool 55°F evenings allowed for even ripening of the grapes. Warmer late season temperatures had our grapes ready to pick slightly earlier than normal, with our first grapes being harvested in mid-August. This proved to be a blessing because in late August, electrical storms sparked numerous fires that burned throughout Monterey County. Fortunately, fruit from our vineyards closest to the fires had already been picked and the strong winds off Monterey Bay dispersed the smoke and kept it from settling over our vineyards. In a year marked by challenge and change, we believe our 2020 vintage wines are a bright spot.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were hand-picked and, upon arrival at the winery, whole-cluster pressed using a gentle membrane press. The juice was then cold settled before fermentation, allowing unnecessary solids to separate and sink to the bottom. This removal of excess pulp helps protect the yeast from being stressed and allows for a clean, happy fermentation. The juice was slowly fermented entirely in stainless steel at a very cold temperature to retain the aromatic floral components and enhance the fruit esters. The result is a delightful balance of fruity forwardness, crisp acidity and a full, round palate. Here at the winery, our Albariño is one of the first things we reach for when we need a crisp and flavorful easy-to-pair white wine.

WINERY & TASTING ROOM

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