

# Chardonnay

2016 | HORSE HEAVEN HILLS



**30A WINE BY MERCER ESTATES** celebrates the happy beach life enjoyed along Florida's Scenic Highway 30-A. For more than a century, the Mercer family has been a proud steward of the same land in the Horse Heaven Hills AVA of Washington State. The region's long, hot days and cool nights produce world-class fruit for their delicious family-crafted wines. 30A Wine is bold and lush, yet balanced with delicate aromas and fruit complexity

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Notes of butterscotch, honey, fresh lime, toasty crème brulee greet you on the nose, finishing off with undertones of fresh Granny Smith apple. The full bodied fruit is balanced by clean bright acidity leading into a soft, savory finish.

## GROWING SEASON

The 2016 vintage started ahead of schedule and had everyone thinking it was going to be even warmer than 2015, however unusually cool temperatures in July and August were followed by a cool October. The cooler summer temps allowed for longer hang time into September and October. The warm days and cool nights of September gave us ample fruit flavor development balanced with bright acidity.

## WINEMAKING

The grapes were harvested in the very early hours of the morning so they would arrive to the winery cool. Once at the winery, the grapes went directly to the press where the juice was gently pressed away from the skins. The juice was allowed to cold settle for two days before racking. The juice was inoculated with a Chardonnay specific yeast and allowed to ferment cool over 30 days. A portion of the blend was fermented in barrel to add rich mouth feel and complexity. We inoculated the barrels for malolactic fermentation to help contribute to the creamy feel in the mouth while preserving the bright natural acidity. All of the barrels were hand stirred throughout malolactic fermentation, further adding to the roundness in the mouth feel.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

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|-------------------|--------------------|
| Appellation ..... | Horse Heaven Hills |
| Blend .....       | 100% Chardonnay    |
| Alcohol .....     | 13.9%              |
| T.A. ....         | 0.34 g/100 ml      |
| pH .....          | 3.73               |

*a life worth celebrating!*



30AWINE.COM | FACEBOOK: @30a | TWITTER: @30a | INSTAGRAM: HEY30A