



BARDEN

2018 Barden Pinot Blanc
La Encantada Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills

The BARDEN trade name is Douglas Margerum's middle name and its English meaning is "Lives near the boar's den..." thusly, we have adorned the label with an image of the wild boar that is pervasive in our area's vineyards.

Vineyard Region: Sta. Rita Hills – La Encantada (100%)

AVA Description – Sta Rita Hills, Santa Rosa Road, North facing slopes on uplifted oceanic sedimentary deposits, valley oriented in east-west direction allowing cool ocean air to roll in each evening bringing cool, damp air that pushes back the warmer interior valley heat. Foggy mornings also limit sun exposure along with cooler temps that depress plant growth and subsequent yield.

Vintage Conditions: 2018 a "normal" vintage allowed us to have a longer picking season, as the fall days became cooler and the days shorter. Our first grapes ripened in early to mid-September and the last varietals hung on vines until early November. With August start dates the harvest becomes very compacted as the heat of summer ripens the grapes quicker. It was a mellow growing season and the lack of any dramatic weather kept the vines healthy and happy with no signs of yellowing leaves and vines shutting down. Mild weather allows for more hang time which means the grapes reach that perfect balance of acidity and brix and develop more complex flavors.

Harvest Date: September 24th, 2018

Winemaking: The Grapes were picked for a balance of flavor, acidity and low alcohol, barrel fermented in our 55 degree winery, partially inoculated for malolactic fermentation and battonaged for 3 months.

Barrel Type: Stainless Tank ~ **Time in Barrel:** 10 months ~ **Production in Cases:** 48

Wine Analysis & Production: Harvest Date: 9/25/2018 Brix (at harvest): 23.7

Alcohol: 13.6 pH: 3.40 TA: 6.0 RS: 0.4g/L

Winemaker comments:

Color: Light golden with straws hues. Bright.

Aroma: Creamy, hints of apples and rich tropical fruit.

Palate: The rich full palate mingles with notes of pineapple and citrus, leading to a crisp, complex finish. We recommend this wine for dining with sophisticated friends.

Peak Drinking: Now – 2036

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