

HESS SELECT



CHARDONNAY

MONTEREY COUNTY
2020



HESS SELECT WINES

Crafted by our winemakers best known for their artistry with mountain vineyards in Napa Valley, Hess Select wines are sourced from grower families throughout California who share the guiding principle that our founder, Donald Hess, instilled in our family business: “nurture the land and return what you take.” We strive to make the very best wines that elevate the everyday and honor our family legacy.

MONTEREY COUNTY APPELLATION

Rugged, often wild, with never-ending complexity, California offers some of the most diverse and premiere growing sites in the world. The Hess winemaking team looks to our dedicated and long-standing grower partners for quality fruit that expresses the unique terroir and idyllic growing conditions for each Hess Select varietal. Monterey’s cooling fog and Pacific coastal breezes draw across the mountains and valleys, creating an ideal climate for growing Chardonnay. Moderate temperatures lengthen the growing season, allowing fruit to evolve with layers of distinct Central Coast flavors.

TASTE WITH THE WINEMAKER

“Monterey’s combination of moderate climate and marine influences from the Pacific Ocean keep the grapes balanced and able to develop fully ripe flavors. A classic Central Coast Chardonnay, this wine offers tropical aromas of grilled pineapple with a hint of star fruit and vanilla. Nicely balanced, Hess Select Chardonnay is medium-bodied with layers of sliced peaches and golden delicious apples, finishing crisp and clean with well-balanced acid.”

-Dave Guffy, Chief Winemaker

2020 VINTAGE

Vintage 2020 began with a slow start due to a cool, mild growing season. Heat spells in August and September accelerated ripening and fruit development right on time. These temperature spikes led us to pick our white varieties slightly earlier than normal. Wide-spread fires in the North and Central Coast regions marked the remainder of the season, however the fruit for our Chardonnay was picked well before the fires and away from impacted regions. To best maintain the integrity of our wines, we chose to vinify only the fruit that met our exacting standards and that would deliver exceptional flavor in bottle.



LEADING THE WAY IN SUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES SINCE 1978

