OUTWARD △

2022 Cat Canyon Vineyard Chenin Blanc

vineyard

Cat Canyon Vineyard was planted in 1978. The Chenin Blanc vines were planted on their own roots, and up until 2019, the wine from these vines was blended away into larger production wines. We are thrilled to be making a single-vineyard expression from this site since 2020.

Cat Canyon is a narrow valley just outside of the town of Los Alamos in Santa Barbara County. The vineyard has sandy loam soils and also benefits from ocean-influenced weather patterns.

winemaking

The Chenin Blanc was harvested by hand at 18.8 Brix. We brought the grapes back to the winery and foot stomped the fruit to get some juice out of the berries and then allowed for 24 hours of skin contact before pressing. After the grapes were pressed, the juice was cold settled overnight then racked to neutral oak barrels, where it carried out a native fermentation.

After fermentation, the barrels were topped and aged on the lees until bottling. Minimal sulfur was added for stability before bottling without fining or filtration in April 2023.

tasting notes

The 2022 Cat Canyon Chenin Blanc oozes with mango, passion fruit, wool, and subtle notes of honey on both the nose and the palate. The 24 hrs of skin contact adds a unique textural component to the wine that is characteristic of the varietal.

details

- composition: 100% Chenin Blanc
- cases produced: 216
- harvest Brix: 18.8
- alc: 12.0
- pH: 3.55
- TA: 6.1 g/L
- RS: 0.1g/L