

# LA CREMA



## 2005 CHARDONNAY

SONOMA COAST

*Since 1979, we have been pioneers in producing Burgundian varietals from the Sonoma Coast. This cool coastal region's boundary begins with a narrow strip at the Mendocino County border, continuing along the western coastal edge of Sonoma County through the mouth of the Russian River Valley; extending to the Sonoma-Carneros border of Napa. At our family-owned estate winery – found in the heart of the Russian River Valley – we handcraft our wine one barrel at a time. We strive to offer balance, elegance and great fruit intensity in every glass of La Crema wine.*

### VINTAGE PROFILE

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The 2005 vintage began with early budbreak, followed by gentle, evenly spaced rains and cool temperatures through May. Summer temperatures warmed but remained steady and mild in the Russian River Valley, allowing the berries to retain delicate floral components throughout the growing season. Harvest began on Labor Day and lasted until the end of October with no major heat spikes, allowing winemakers to extend hang time on the vine for all varietals. Overall, the evenness of the growing season delivered intense fruit, aromatic floral notes and rich concentration.

### KEY POINTS

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- 100% Chardonnay sourced from the cool-climate vineyards of the Sonoma Coast, located six to twenty-five miles from the Pacific Ocean.
- Fruit was harvested in the cool, early morning hours and delivered in small half- to two-ton bins to ensure cluster integrity
- Clonal selection of Dijon, Clone 4, Robert Young and Rued was chosen to create multi-layered complexity and aromatics
- Belt delivered for whole cluster pressing to preserve fresh fruit expression
- 80% barrel fermentation and 85% malolactic fermentation provide a creamy, rich texture
- Barrel profile of 95% French oak (21% new) medium to medium plus toast levels adds engaging spice tones
- Barrel aging seven months sur lie – lees stirred every three weeks – lends richness to the mouth

### TASTING NOTES

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*Fresh aromas of citrus, butterscotch and lemon peel open to appealing hints of jasmine and nutmeg. On the palate, rich buttercream, pear and citrus meld to create a plush, rounded middle, with toast and caramel adding richness and texture to the long, lingering finish.*

MELISSA STACKHOUSE, LA CREMA WINEMAKER

### STATISTICAL INFORMATION

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| <i>Appellation:</i> | Sonoma Coast  |
| <i>Composition:</i> | 100% Chardonnay   |
| <i>Type of Oak:</i> | 95% French, 21% new barrels, medium to medium plus toast levels |
| <i>Alcohol:</i>     | 13.5%   |
| <i>T.A.:</i>        | 0.57g/100ml   |
| <i>pH:</i>          | 3.52  |
| <i>R.S.</i>         | 0.22%   |