

## 2016 Chardonnay

Our goal is to make a balanced style of Chardonnay, that expresses the vibrancy of our cool climate grapes and the underlying minerality. We take advantage of our growing conditions to soften the wine with malolactic fermentation. Since our first vintage in 2002, we have also used our own adaptation of the Passito method of partially dehydrating a fraction of the grapes to balance fruit and oak.

## Vinification

80% of the grapes were immediately whole cluster pressed. The Chardonnay was fermented in French oak with about 16% new oak. The remaining 20% of the grapes were placed, single layer, in shallow trays for 6 weeks following the traditional Passito method. After natural dehydration, the grapes were gently pressed and fermented in barrels. The two fractions were blended prior to bottling. A full malolactic fermentation lowered the acidity and improved the texture of the wine.

The wine was gently filtered prior to bottling Appellation: Fingerlakes AVA, New York Varietal Composition: 100% Chardonnay

Alcohol: 13.2% Acidity: 5.9 g/l

RS: >2g/l pH: 3.33

## Vineyards

16 Falls (84 %), Hobbit Hollow (7%), White Springs (9%)

The 16 Falls vineyard is located on the East side of Seneca Lake. The soil composition is shale stone and clay. As the vineyard is set up on a lyre trellis, it intercepts about 50% more sunlight than the traditional VSP trellis system. The Hobbit Hollos vineyard is located on a lakefront vineyard site on the Northwest part of Skaneateles Lake. This is a higher elevation and cooler site, resulting in great crispness and focus. The White Springs vineyard, located just South of the city of Geneva is a unique vineyard site of the Finger Lakes region. The soil composition is Honeoye loam over limestone with great soil drainage. The limestone soil is driving the mineral intensity of this Chardonnay blend.

## Tasting Notes

With floral aromatics, a distinct minerality, and racy acidity, our flagship wine finishes with a delightfully dry finish.

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