

BYRON

NIELSON VINEYARD

2015 CHARDONNAY

WINERY DESCRIPTION

For most of Byron's 30 year history, it has been known for single vineyard site expressions of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Today our focus remains on vineyard designate wines from Santa Barbara County's distinctive vineyard locations, in both Santa Maria Valley and Sta. Rita Hills.

To really understand Byron, one must spend some time exploring the Nielson Vineyard that surrounds the winery. More than just Byron's Estate Vineyard, it has historical significance as Santa Barbara's first commercial vineyard planted in 1964. Cold winds and thin soils ensure that Byron wines possess great intensity, heightened aromatics and firm structure.

WINE DESCRIPTION

The Chardonnay vines in our Nielson Vineyard feature cuttings from the original "Wente" clone planted on our estate in 1964. The clusters we select contain an optimal mix of berry sizes: the larger, riper berries provide the wine's rich stone fruit flavors while the smaller ones contribute to the wine's firm acidity and underlying minerality.

THE WINE

APPELLATION	SANTA MARIA VALLEY
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% CHARDONNAY
BARREL REGIME	15 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK, 52% NEW
CASES PRODUCED (9L)	400
ALCOHOL	14.4%

THE VINEYARD

CLIMATE	COOL, MARINE INFLUENCE
SOIL TYPE	ALLUVIAL OUTCROPPINGS, SANDLY LOAM, BENCHLAND SOILS
DISTANCE FROM PACIFIC OCEAN	18 MILES
ELEVATION	500 TO 800 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL
YEAR PLANTED	FIRST COMMERCIAL VINEYARD PLANTED IN 1964, REPLANTED IN 2000
CLONES	DIJON CLONES 114, 667, AND POMMARD
ASPECT	SOUTH FACING SLOPE
SUSTAINABLE	CCSW CERTIFIED, SIP CERTIFIED

BYRON WINERY

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