

2016 Amphitheater Block Chardonnay



THE VINTAGE

The 2016 growing season saw rain in the winter months. A burst of heat in January and February caused an early bud break. Cool weather around flowering and a relatively cool summer resulted in extended hang time of clusters on the vine.

VINTAGE: 2016

APPELLATION: SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS AVA

ALC/VOL: 15.0%

PRODUCTION: 45 CASES

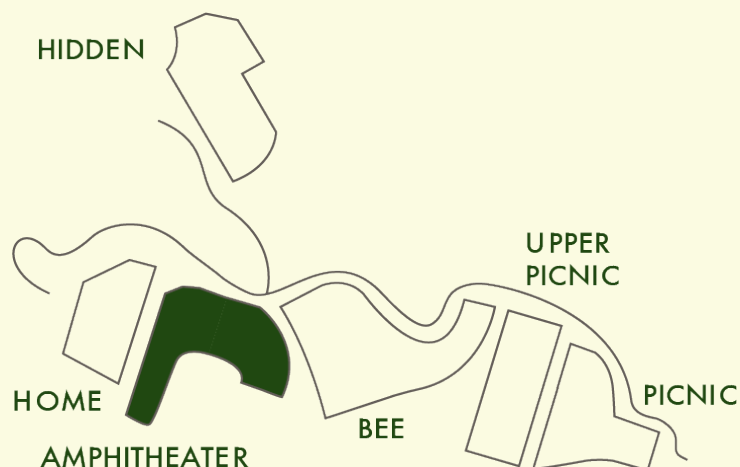
CLONE: MASSAL SELECTION (HOME- CLONE 4),
5C ROOTSTOCK

DATE PLANTED: 1982

FERMENTATION: IN BARREL, NO MLF

ÉLEVAGE: 42% NEW FRENCH OAK, 10 MO

WINEMAKER: SHALINI SEKHAR



THE WINEMAKING

Fruit is picked at first light to optimize acidity and flavor profile. After field-sorting, the fruit is whole berry pressed, and the juice settled for 24 hours before racking to barrel to be fermented. During the cellaring months the wine is monitored with minimal intervention to allow its natural terroir to shine. After 10 months of barrel aging sur lie, the wines are bottled without filtration to capture the delicate flavors and aromas unique to each block.

THE ÉLEVAGE

2016 Amphitheater Block was fermented and aged in barrel. These barrels came from the French cooperage Siruge. 1 of 2 barrels was new oak.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

93 pts, *Wine Enthusiast*



AVA: SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

CLONE: WENTE CLONE

ROOTSTOCK: OWN ROOTED

PLANTING DATE: 1981

ACRES: 2

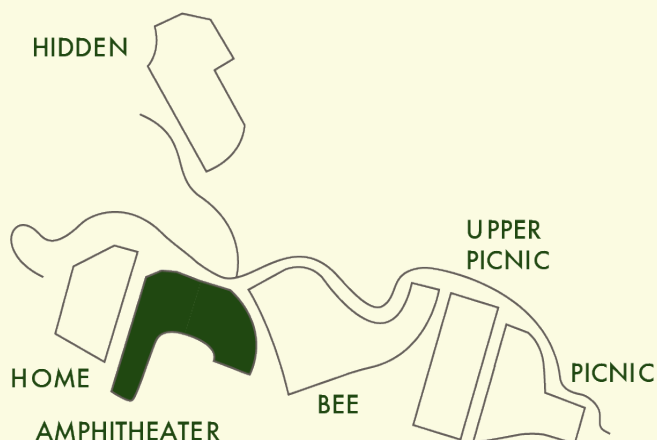
VINE COUNT: 1100

ELEVATION: 780 TO 735 FT

DIRECTIONAL PLACEMENT: SOUTH-FACING

SOIL COMPOSITION: CLAY LOAM

TRELLISING: QUADRILATERAL CORDONS



ABOUT AMPHITHEATER BLOCK

Amphitheater Block is one of three legacy Chardonnay blocks at Spring Ridge Vineyard. Amphitheater Block spans between 780 to 735 feet above sea level. This block is 2 acres in size. Planted in 1981, Amphitheater Block was the second vineyard block established at Spring Ridge. The vines are Wente clone and own rooted.

Amphitheater Block consists of a soil blend of 43% sand, 28% silt, and 29% clay.

ABOUT SPRING RIDGE VINEYARD

Spring Ridge Vineyard sits on an east-facing ridge in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The ridge ascends from 500 to 1700 feet above sea level. The maritime climate of the San Francisco Bay offers cool, crisp mornings and warm, sunny afternoons creating perfect conditions for growing Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. The soil at Spring Ridge Vineyard consists of sedimentary rock, 1 to 3 million years old, at a shallow and mid level depth, perfect for the expression of our grapes. We strive to protect and nurture the entire ecological community of Spring Ridge Vineyard, and are dedicated to steward and replenish the land we inhabit.