



CALERA

2017 Central Coast Chardonnay

In 1975, legendary vintner and pioneer Josh Jensen founded Calera (Spanish for “lime kiln”) high in the Gavilan Mountains of California’s majestic Central Coast. In the four decades since, Calera has helped establish the Central Coast as one of the New World’s most exciting wine regions, while earning acclaim as one of California’s iconic wineries. Sourced from some of the appellation’s finest vineyards, the Calera Central Coast Chardonnay has become a benchmark for the region, balancing lush richness with beautiful minerality and bright citrus flavors.

In the Vineyards

The season began with one of the wettest winters in memory, followed by a warm spring that led to a well-timed budbreak. The warm, sunny weather continued throughout summer, providing ideal growing conditions. After a significant Labor Day heat spike led us to harvest a few of our earlier-ripening sites, a perfectly timed cooldown in late summer and early fall provided additional hangtime for the rest of the grapes to achieve optimal ripeness. While overall yields were down slightly in 2017, the quality is excellent.

Comments from the Winemaker

Vibrant and inviting, this wine captures the essence of Chardonnay grown on the cool, windswept Central Coast. Aromas of apricot, sweet hay and green apple leap from the glass. On the palate, deeper layers of fresh baked apple pie and anise emerge, with refreshing acidity and hints of subtle French oak carrying the flavors to a pure, radiant finish.

Varietal Content

100% Chardonnay

Harvest Information

Appellation: Central Coast

Vineyards: Pedregal, Laetitia, Zabala, Bien Nacido, Lone Oak, Rincon, Sierra Madre, Eden Rift

Harvest Dates: September 26 – October 19

Average Sugar at Harvest: 24.5° Brix

Cooperage

95% French oak, 5% stainless steel
10% new oak, 10% second vintage,
80% neutral

Barrel Aging: 16 months
100% malolactic fermentation

Production and Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%
0.74 g/100 ml titratable acidity
24 days fermentation at 60°F
pH: 3.30

