



MORGAN

2021 Boekenooogen Vineyard Chardonnay



PLACE

Located in the well-drained foothills above the Salinas Valley, the Santa Lucia Highlands appellation is California's most distinctive region for growing terroir-driven wines. Strong afternoon winds and coastal fog originating from nearby Monterey Bay flow through the AVA, resulting in one of the longest growing seasons in North America.

Beginning in 1997, John Boekenooogen transformed his family's historic ranch in the Santa Lucia Mountains into one of the region's best-known estates. The high altitude Boekenooogen Vineyard is located on the northern end of the Santa Lucia Highlands, offering well-drained mountainside soils and exposure to cooling coastal air.

VINTAGE

The 2021 growing season commenced with budbreak in mid-March after a cold, dry winter. Very windy conditions during flowering led to below average fruit set. Classically cool Monterey temperatures continued throughout the growing season, punctuated by brief heat waves that moved ripening along. Harvest began on September 7th and concluded abruptly in late October preceding a rain event, resulting in clean and perfectly ripe fruit.

WINE

Hand sorted grapes were whole cluster pressed, preserving fruit flavors and natural acidity. The juice was barrel fermented with native yeast in 100% French oak (33% new), followed by nine months of barrel aging.

In the glass, the Boekenooogen Vineyard Chardonnay displays a beautiful light gold hue. On the nose, aromas of fresh pineapple are joined by lemon curd and baking spices. These elements are echoed on the palate by orchard fruits and subtle butterscotch, with 90% malolactic fermentation adding a rounded mouthfeel to the wine's tropical fruit and bright acidity.

APPELLATION:	Santa Lucia Highlands
VINEYARD:	Boekenooogen
CLONE:	96
SOIL:	Chualar Loam (Granitic)
CLIMATE:	Very Cool, Region I (UCD)
COOPERAGE:	9 months in 100% French Oak, 33% new

ALCOHOL:	14.3%	pH:	3.29
ACIDITY:	6.2 g/l	PRODUCTION:	75 cases
MALOLACTIC:	90%	RETAIL PRICE:	\$48. ⁰⁰