



Lucia

by PISONI

With generations of farming history in Monterey County, and a commitment to making exceptional wines, The Pisoni Family hand-crafts the Lucia wines from the Pisoni, Garys' and Soberanes Vineyards of the Santa Lucia Highlands.

2022 CHARDONNAY SOBERANES VINEYARD

the VINTAGE

The 2022 vintage proved to be a year that reinforced the importance of knowing your producer. Overall, the vintage was dry and early, which resulted in beautifully fragrant and concentrated wines—but it was imperative that one acted on quick harvest decisions before an oncoming September heat wave. Rainfall was low and the California drought continued through this year. Five and a half of the seven total inches received this season fell in the month of December. This means much less rain would fall over the growing season, further stressing the vines. A warmer than average February and March began to awaken the vines earlier than expected. May brought on flowering, and with that came a stretch of cooler temperatures that slowed the growth of the vines and proved essential for tannin and color development. As a mild summer set in, smaller than average canopies and a lower-yielding crop level became apparent. A cool August allowed for phenolic development of each berry while sugar accumulation remained very slow. As September began the forecast of hotter weather materialized. All of California was facing an intense heat wave that reminded us of the 2017 and 2004 vintages. Using past vintages as a guide and wanting to harvest before the heat waves, we made longer passes through the vineyard each night to ensure all blocks were harvested at our desired moments. This approach paid off and the 2022 vintage has higher than average concentration with vibrant aromatics.

the VINEYARD

The Soberanes Vineyard is the latest joint venture between the Pisoni and Francioni families. Situated on the Santa Lucia Highlands Bench adjacent to the Garys' Vineyard and recently named "one of the appellation's most esteemed properties" by the Wine Enthusiast, the site features tightly spaced vines and is planted to 33 acres of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Syrah. The clonal material planted in the loamy, rocky soil is very diverse and features over a dozen of the most renowned heritage selections from California and Burgundy.

the WINEMAKING

The Pisoni Family is committed to raising and hand-crafting exceptional wines. The limited-production Lucia wines are created using classic, gentle and thoughtful winemaking techniques. Hand-picked and sorted grapes are fermented with native yeast and aged in carefully selected French oak barrels. Our state-of-the-art winemaking facility uses gravity flow as part of a custom design conceived to merge the estate vineyards and winery. This affords us complete control of the farming and winemaking process, ensuring consistently superior quality.

TASTING NOTES

The Soberanes Vineyard is proving to be an exceptional Chardonnay site and 2022 brings another example. As expected, the rocky soils stress vines and produce a wine with concentrated aromas of white peach, baked apple, lemon zest, and candied ginger, while an undertone of chalky minerality pays homage to the crushed granite that rests beneath the topsoil. In the cellar, careful sorting, gentle pressing, and diligent lees management during 15 months of aging in French oak barrels have coaxed forth flavors of Bosc pear, lemon curd, and toasted brioche that delight the palate. Though replete with richness and supple fruit notes on the palate, this Chardonnay is unquestionably balanced as it finishes with a distinct coastal salinity and freshness from youthful acidity.

CASES PRODUCED: 205
RELEASE DATE: Spring 2024
WINEMAKER: Jeff Pisoni

BARREL AGING: 17 months in 30% New Oak
BARREL ORIGIN: 100% French Oak
FERMENTATION: 100% Native Yeast
FILTRATION/FINING: None