



TOLOSA

BIEN NACIDO VINEYARD CHARDONNAY 2022 SANTA MARIA VALLEY



ABOUT TOLOSA

Cowboy dreams of owning a cattle ranch brought Vintner Robin Baggett to Edna Valley. The cold Pacific wind that sweeps down the coast into the transverse valley and a myriad of soils derived from an ancient seabed made him realize he was on a frontier of a different sort. Tolosa is the expression of his commitment to spare no effort to craft nuanced and balanced Pinot Noir and Chardonnay of distinctive character to rival any in the world.

VINTAGE NOTES

A dry winter and cool spring delayed bud break, slowing down bloom and fruit development. Warmer summer weather, however, prevailed through August, followed by an unexpected heat wave of eight days in early September. Reduced yields, a result of drought conditions over the last two years, combined with higher temperatures, have produced an expressive vintage featuring ripe, concentrated flavors.

VINEYARD SOURCES

Regarded by many as one of the premiere Chardonnay vineyards in California, Bien Nacido was originally planted by the Miller family in 1973. Tucked into the foothills of the Santa Lucia range east of Santa Maria, sixteen miles from the Pacific Ocean, Bien Nacido (Well Born) is a sprawling vineyard with steep hillside, bench and flatland blocks. Tolosa's grapes come from one of the original 1973 plantings, Block I. This benchland block has gravelly loam, shale soils with southern exposures punctuated by mild, sunny days and cool, afternoon winds.

WINEMAKING

Grapes were whole cluster pressed before being barrel fermented. In 2022, partial malolactic fermentation and lees stirring were key processes in creating the rich, full character of this wine that was aged for 11 months in French oak barrels, 18% new.

Sight	Medium light gold with hints of yellow
Nose	Rich, warm nutty aromas featuring honeydew melon, lemon custard and guava are mixed with honeysuckle and nutmeg.
Palate	Medium full-bodied with broad, rich, mouth coating fruit-focused flavors of lemon-lime, pineapple, yellow apple and nectarine with a strong finish.