

## **Beauregard Vineyards Chardonnay**

- Authentic Santa Cruz Mountain expression, reminiscent of the classics like Mount Eden and Ridge Beautifully captures its vineyard, with bright minerality from limestone soils and salinity from the Pacific Ocean
  - Estate bottled from fourth generation winegrowing family

## **The Producer**

The family partnership of Beauregard Vineyards combines a legacy of identifying world-class vineyard sites, deep expertise farming Burgundian varietals and old-world winemaking practices to produce outstanding Santa Cruz Mountain wines.

Beauregard's first vineyards were started in 1949 by Amos Beauregard, a visionary who saw the Santa Cruz Mountains as ideal for growing grapes—nearly three decades before the appellation caught the world's attention when Ridge placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the 1976 Judgment of Paris. The family viticulture practice expanded under his grandson Jim Beauregard, who planted over 300 acres of vines in the Santa Cruz Mountains and became known for identifying outstanding vineyard sites for producers including Hirsch Vineyards. In 1999, Jim's son Ryan launched Beauregard Vineyards to create outstanding Santa Cruz wines from their estate and other great vineyard sites.

The Beauregard estate vineyards are situated in the Ben Lomond Mountain Appellation. This tiny appellation—the second smallest in California—features a uniquely cool climate that lends itself to optimum phenolic ripeness, creating wines that have complete flavor development and balance, reminiscent of the great terroirs of the world. The 4x16 mile viticultural area reaches elevations up to 2,600 feet, and largely sits above the fog, soaking in summer sunshine. The elevation and ocean proximity ensure a cool climate and extended growing season, producing complex and concentrated berries. Beauregard Vineyards produces the only estate wines currently carrying the Ben Lomond Mountain appellation designation.

Beauregard also makes wine from other Santa Cruz Mountains sites that feature stressed vines, cool climate and outstanding soil.

Winemaker Ryan Beauregard seeks to produce wines that are varietally correct and show the flavor of the land. Wines are made all naturally—from the crush pad to the bottling line—and aged sur lees, imparting structure, weight and ageability. Like Ridge and Mount Eden, Beauregard ages the wines in American oak to capture the authentic beauty of their native home.

## The Wine

Bald Mountain is a summit about 3 miles from Beauregard Vineyards' tasting room in Bonny Doon, CA. Bald Mountain Vineyard was planted in 1990 by Jim Beauregard. The long narrow site is surrounded by redwoods and has an impeccable view of the Monterey Bay. The 40 acre vineyard sits at an elevation of 920 to 1,050 feet on a southwest facing slope. Chosen for its Monterey Bay marine influences combine with the rare white sandy Zayante soil to produce wines with minerality and striking acidity. Plantings: 7 acres of Pinot Noir: Pommard, 667 & Mt Eden clone.



Region: Santa Cruz Mountains Appellation: Ben Lomond Mountain Vineyard: Bald Mountain Vineyard Altitude: 920 to 1050 ft elevation Soil: Rare white sandy Zayante soil Varietals: 100% Pinot Noir Vine age: 1990 Planting system: VSP Vine density: 9' x 5' Yield: Average 2 tons/acre Harvest: October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Production: 336 cases



**Vinification:** The fruit was de-stemmed to an open top tank where Native yeast took hold and then transferred to barrel to complete aging at cool temperatures.

Aging: 12 months in barrel, 50% new American oak

**Tasting Notes**: In the glass there are notes of strawberry, rose petal, a smokiness and light violet. On the palate it is followed by raspberry, red cherry, cranberry and a light earthiness. This wine finishes with spice, dust, balanced tannins and acid.