

# LONE BIRCH

## 2017 Chardonnay



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### **Style:**

This wine is handcrafted in a balanced, approachable style that showcases the quality of fruit from Washington State.

### **Vineyard Source:**

All of the Lone Birch Wines are sourced from fruit from our 830 acre estate vineyard located in the Yakima Valley. Our vineyard site offers a long 190 day growing season, which allows for slow, steady fruit maturation. The warm days and the cool nights provided by the high desert environment allow the vines to produce exceptional balance with ripe fruit flavors and plenty of natural acidity.

### **Vintage:**

To begin 2017, Eastern Washington was in the midst of a brutal winter that lingered on into early March. Our concerns of winter damage to the vines were alleviated towards the end of April when our vineyards came back to life with bud break. Bud Break was a bit behind a normal Washington vintage but not by much. Spring of 2017 was warm, and this led to rapid growth in the vineyards, our vineyard team was quick to manage excessive growth, so our vines met our winemaking goals.

The spring led into a perfect Eastern Washington Summer with warm days and cool nights that we are keen to for a great growing season. Veraison happened around the first of August and with all the last-minute adjustments to crop size we were very pleased about what we would see in 2017. Wildfires were of a great deal of concern for us, as damaging as these fires were, our Estate vineyard was not impacted by the excessive smoke we saw in the state creating a huge sigh of relief from the vineyard and winemaking teams.

Very similar to the 2016 vintage, we saw a much cooler than average September that slowed the ripening process down quite a bit. This allowed the grapes to hang on their vines much longer allowing them to achieve optimal ripeness for flavors and sugar content. This did mean a later season for us as we brought in the last of our grapes in early November.

Overall, we are pleased that we were not affected by all the smoke and are more than pleased with all the extra efforts and arduous work our vineyard team accomplished in making our fruit of exceptional quality which in turn created wonderful wines.

### **Tasting Notes:**

A bouquet of honeysuckle and melon leads to a crisp, dry, and refreshing palate with flavors of zesty lemon and pear.

### **Enological Data:**

Alcohol	13.4%
pH	3.49
Total Acidity	7.0 g/L
Cases Production	1,420 cases

[www.lonebirchwines.com](http://www.lonebirchwines.com)