

CONUNDRUM

2015 California White Wine Blend

Conundrum was born more than 25 years ago, and today it still stands for doing things your own way and constantly exploring. Its inspiration came from Charlie Wagner, Sr. – co-founder of Caymus Vineyards and father to winery owner Chuck Wagner – who would sit at the dining room table and mix wines to create the “perfect glass” to pair with his meal. At the time, blending wines was considered almost unthinkable, and even Charlie had no idea that his bold experiment would help usher in a whole new trend.

Today, Conundrum is as original as ever. We continue to source our fruit from some of the most sought-after California winegrowing regions to ensure both quality and diversity: Napa, Monterey, Santa Barbara and Tulare Counties. While the exact blend remains under wraps, with every vintage we include Chardonnay for its weight and complexity, Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon for crisp acidity, Muscat Canelli for floral qualities and Viognier for lush texture. Taken together, they add up to a wine that’s amazingly versatile, pairing well with everything from salmon to spicy food, or enjoyed on its own as an Aperitif.

Winemakers Jon Bolta and Charlie Wagner preserve the individual characteristics of each varietal by taking great care to keep separate lots of wine throughout the entire winemaking process. Some lots are aged in chilled stainless steel tanks to maintain fresh, crisp aromas and fruit flavors, and some in a combination of aged and new French oak barrels for up to ten months. The intriguing result: a wine with multiple layers, subtle and complex, born of an adventurous spirit while inviting more adventures to come.

Tasting Notes

Light in color – calling to mind shades of straw or sun-kissed blond hair – this wine opens with the evocative scents of apricot, pineapple, honeysuckle and coconut. A slight flintiness of wet stone adds a layer of interest, due to a small portion of the wine being fermented in concrete tanks. Entry on the palate is creamy and soft, with lush flavors of Asian pear, Hawaiian fruit, apricot and brown spice. The finish brings just a wisp of acid to balance the richness of the fruit, with the distinct characteristics of each varietal in this blend creating a lasting harmonious impression.

Director of Winemaking: Charlie Wagner

Winemaker: Jon Bolta

