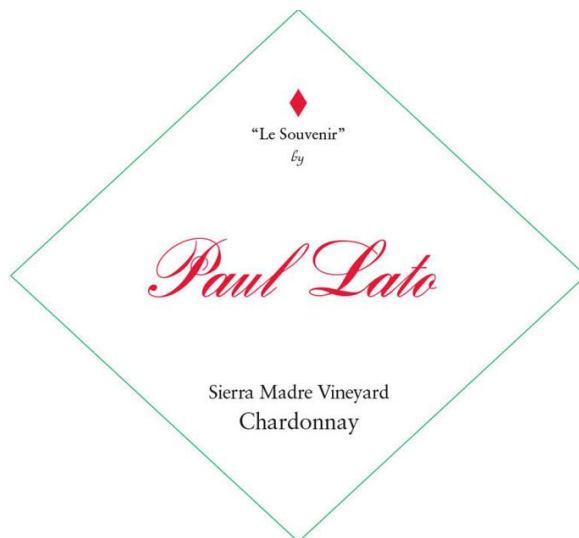


# the wine trust

HERITAGE • TRADITION • CRAFT



## Paul Lato Background

**Owner:** Paul Lato

**Country:** United States / California

**Founded:** 2002

**Annual Production:** 4,500cs

**Description:** In 2002, Polish-born Paul Lato left a successful career as a sommelier to pursue his dream of becoming a winemaker. With help from a number of California's top winemakers, his initial production totaled just 500 cases. In the years since, Lato has cemented a reputation as one of California's top winemakers – his wines are routinely showered with exceptional critical ratings and sell-out via mailing list.

## Wine Notes – 2018 Paul Lato Le Souvenir Sierra Madre Vineyard Chardonnay

Paul Lato's story is as exceptional as his wines. Born in Poland, Lato was a successful sommelier in Toronto but harbored a dream of becoming a winemaker. After stints working for Jim Clendenen (proprietor of California Pinot pioneer Au Bon Climat) and as a cellar-rat at Bien Nacido, Lato began making his own wines in 2002. Fast forward two decades, a chance meeting with Robert Parker and fortuitously-timed help from Thomas Keller and Paul Lato Winery is now widely considered one of California's top producers of Burgundian and Rhone varietals, with a trove of critical accolades. Souvenir Chardonnay comes from the Sierra Madre Vineyard in the Santa Maria AVA. The combination of this special site and Paul's extraordinary skill create a superb, expressive, classically-styled Chardonnay that routinely enjoys mid- to high-90s critical scores from top reviewers.

**JEB DUNNUCK** 97 Points

**vinous** 95 Points  
ANTONIO GALLONI  
explore all things wine

## Technical Specifications

<b>Varietal Composition:</b>	100% Chardonnay
<b>Vineyard Region:</b>	Sierra Madre Vineyard in Santa Maria AVA
<b>Production Volume:</b>	250 cases
<b>Vineyard Characteristics:</b>	Certified sustainable, 23 year old vines, Sand and sandy loam soils, west facing, gently sloping
<b>Wine-Making / Vinification:</b>	Hand-harvested 100% whole-cluster pressed 21-day fermentation in 60-gallon French oak using select yeast Aged 15 months on primary lees in 60/40 new/neutral French oak, fined, 30ppm SO <sub>2</sub>
<b>Alcohol / Volume:</b>	13.9%
<b>p/H:</b>	3.52
<b>Residual Sugar:</b>	0 g/L

## JEB DUNNUCK

The 2018 Chardonnay Le Souvenir Sierra Madre Vineyard comes from a site outside of Santa Maria and was brought up in 60% new French oak. Awesome notes of white flowers, white currants, toasted spices, honeysuckle and a touch of spice all emerge from this ultra-classic, medium to full-bodied, seamless beauty. It does everything right and is just a classy effort.

**97 Points**



The 2018 Chardonnay Le Souvenir Sierra Madre Vineyard is one of the most expressive wines in this range. Bright and lifted, with striking aromatic intensity and all the tropical accents that are typical of this site, the 2018 is impeccably balanced from start to finish. Lemon confit, white flowers, mint and lightly honeyed notes all grace this wonderfully inviting Chardonnay from Paul Lato. In a word: superb.

**95 Points (Antonio Galloni)**

### Prior Vintage Ratings for Seabiscuit Zotovich Pinot Noir

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Jeb Dunnuck</u>	<u>Wine Advocate</u>	<u>Vinous</u>
2017	98 pts	97 pts (Brooks)	94pts (Galloni)
2016	94 pts	95 pts (Kelley)	94 pts (Galloni)
2015	98 pts	95+ pts (Perotti-Brown)	94 pts (Galloni)
2014	96 pts	96 pts (Dunnuck)	94 pts (Galloni)
2013	96 pts	96 pts (Dunnuck)	94 pts (Galloni)
2012	94 pts	94 pts (Dunnuck)	94 pts (Galloni)