

## Chardonnay Russian River Valley

## **VINEYARDS**

Sites 47% from four Dutton Ranches Vineyards (Perry, Mengle, Sebastopol & Mill

Station); 24% Martinelli's Laughlin Road Vineyard; 16% from our estate vineyard

Westside Farms; 13% from two Rochioli Vineyards (Allen & River)

Soil & Clonal Selection These are cool sites, with low vigor soil such as Goldridge Loam, planted between

1969 and 2006. The vineyards are planted to a larger-clustered clone such as UC

Davis clone 4, or a younger planting of a Wente or Dijon selection.

**VINTAGE** 

**Growing Season** Winter 2015 was the warmest on record, resulting in early budbreak. Cooler, wetter

weather in spring months slowed development, however, leading to a challenging, extended bloom period. The resulting uneven fruit set translated to a small crop and smaller berries with very concentrated flavors. The unusually early budbreak resulted

in an unusually early harvest.

Harvest Dates | Brix August 16 to September 9 | 22.8° average

## WINEMAKING

Varietal Compositon 100% Chardonnay

**Fermentation** We press whole clusters for phenolic delicacy. Native-yeast and full native malolactic

fermentation take place in barrel, with sur lies bâtonnage.

Aging After aging 12 months in 21% new French oak barrels (François Frères, Taransaud, &

Vicard), the Chardonnay was traditionally fined for clarity during the following harvest

and bottled without filtration in February, 2017.

**Cases | Alcohol** 7,019 | 14.5%

Release Date | Price April 2018 | \$42

"Coming from special vineyard sites, our Chardonnays show great depth of flavor, length of finish, aromatic complexity, and a fine balance between richness and delicacy. Typically, the climate is cool and the soil vigor low, producing graceful yet vibrant wines." – David Ramey