



FLANAGAN

2021 CHARDONNAY *Bacigalupi Vineyard*

APPELLATION Russian River Valley

HARVEST DATE August 25th, 2021

pH 3.26

TA 7.06

ABV 13.5%

BARREL REGIMEN Aged in new Boutes Soleil, twice used neutral barrels, mixed coopers

CASES PRODUCED III

RELEASE DATE March 2023

VINEYARD NOTES

The spring of 2021 was an extremely dry. There was very little rain that winter and we moved back into serious drought conditions by early spring. On 4/19/2021 the water from Lake Mendocino was shut off at our Redwood Valley Grape Ranch. No water at all was made available for Agriculture. The lack of soil moisture led to weaker shoot growth and very poor fruit set. Coastal sites with more fog and general ambient moisture did better. Inland vineyards were the most affected. Overall the crop in Sonoma County was about 15% below normal. Coming on the heels of the total disaster of 2020 (which had two major fires in the middle of the growing season) this left wineries scrambling to find fruit. The 2021 vintage is excellent but small.

Bacigalupi Vineyard is famous for being the source of the Napa Chardonnay that won the judgement of Paris in 1976. Of course, it was actually a Sonoma County Chardonnay made by a Napa based winery. Bacigalupi is a relatively warm site on West Side Road in the northern part of the Russian River Valley. It is a warm part of the AVA and generally produces relatively ripe Chardonnay fruit. I like to make a clean, balanced style that reflects both the site and the vintage. That means harvesting grapes so that they retain adequate acidity, and, making moderate use of new French oak. Our Bacigalupi Vineyard Chardonnay is consistently delightful.

TASTING NOTES

The nose displays Jasmine, and Citrus Blossom. The palate is distinctive and is driven by the beautiful ripe Meyer Lemon note that runs through the wine. This has been true in every single vintage of this wine. The Russian River Valley is among the top regions in the world to grow Chardonnay and Bacigalupi is one of the best known vineyard sites in the AVA. We have made wines from Bacigalupi since 2014 and it continues to be a favorite with our club members!

