



FLANAGAN

2021 CHARDONNAY *Russian River Valley*

APPELLATION Russian River Valley

HARVEST DATE Aug 25th, Sept 28-30 2021

pH 3.44

TA 6.39

ABV 13.5%

CASES PRODUCED 464

BARREL REGIMEN Barrel fermented and then aged in Neutral and once used French Oak Barrels

RELEASE DATE March 2023

VINTAGE 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 (and remains shut off as of 8/9/22). 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.

TASTING NOTES

Our intention with our Chardonnay is to make it in a clean, balanced style. That means harvesting it correctly so that we retain the brightness in the wine, and, make judicious use of new French oak. Our Russian River Valley Chardonnay comes from four vineyards in 2021 including Platt, Ritchie, Bacigalupi, and our River Road Grape Farm.

The nose displays White Peach Blossoms, Jasmine, and Citrus Blossom. On the palate there are notes of Apricot and White Peach and ripe Meyer Lemon. Everyone on our winemaking team is really happy with this elegant, balanced Chardonnay.

The Russian River Valley is among the top regions in the world to grow Chardonnay and I believe it is the best area in California for consistently ripe but still balanced Chardonnay.

