



# FLANAGAN

2022 CHARDONNAY *Ritchie Vineyard*

APPELLATION Russian River Valley

HARVEST DATE August 22nd and 27th, 2022

pH 3.4

TA 6.2

ABV 14%

BARREL REGIMEN Aged in Francois Frere and Atelier barrels. One heavy toast barrel, one light toast. 50% new.

CASES PRODUCED 95

RELEASE DATE March 2024

## VINEYARD NOTES

The 2022 vintage saw a continuation of the severe drought that started in 2021. On 4/19/2021 the water from Lake Mendocino was shut off and remained shut off until 10/9/22. No water at all was made available for Agriculture from the lake. The use of many other water sources was either restricted or completely prohibited. The ongoing lack of soil moisture led to a second year of weak shoot growth and poor fruit set. Overall, the crop in North Coast was about 10% below normal. After the total disaster of 2020 (which had two major fires in the middle of the growing season) and the small 2021 harvest, wineries continued to struggle to find fruit. The lack of supply of grapes was partially offset by a drop in consumption starting in the second half of 2022. The 2022 vintage produced another small crop of high-quality grapes

Ritchie is a very famous Sonoma County vineyard located on East Side Road in the heart of the Russian River Valley. It is a relatively warm site and generally produces a richer style of Chardonnay. Our intention with our Chardonnay is to make it in a clean, balanced style that reflects both the site and the vintage. That means harvesting it correctly so that we retain the brightness in the wine, and, making judicious use of new French oak. Our Ritchie Vineyard Chardonnay exemplifies our commitment to balance.

## TASTING NOTES

The nose displays notes of Apricot and Pear Blossom. On the palate the wine showcases ripe Peach, Apricot, and a hint of Honeydew Melon on the finish. This charming wine has rounder acidity and an elegant palate feel, which are beautifully integrated. The Russian River Valley is among the top regions in the world to grow Chardonnay and Ritchie is a grand cru quality vineyard site. The 2022 Ritchie is one of the top wines we have produced from this renowned site.

