

2014 NAPA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER PHILLIP CORALLO-TITUS



THE WINE

Our Napa Valley Chardonnay is made using fruit grown on elite vineyards in some of the coolest regions of Napa Valley. The majority of the grapes come from Kelly Ranch, which overlooks the San Pablo Bay, where marine influences and shallow soils composed of clay and gravel create optimal growing conditions for Chardonnay. To add depth and complexity, the 2014 vintage also includes fruit from Poe Vineyard in Napa-Carneros and Red Hen Vineyard in Oak Knoll. This wine was aged on its lees for eight months in one-third new French oak barrels. For added texture and viscosity, a significant portion of the wine underwent malolactic fermentation.

GROWING SEASON AND HARVEST

For the third year in a row, Mother Nature provided exceptional growing conditions. In fact, our Vineyard Manager Dave Pirio believes that 2012, 2013 and 2014 may be the finest run of growing seasons he has seen in his more than 30 years of farming Pritchard Hill. While 2014 offered lovely temperate, mid-season weather that was ideal for our early ripening varieties, it also brought ample warmth in September and October, ensuring perfect ripeness in our late-ripening grapes. With no threat of rain or significant heat events, the fruit was harvested at an unhurried pace in pristine condition. Overall, our yields were down slightly from 2013, resulting in beautiful depth and concentration.

WINE STATISTICS

Harvested September 5-22, 2014

24.2° Brix at Harvest

14.5% Alcohol

TA – 0.60 g/100ml

pH – 3.43

Bottled June 2015

TASTING NOTES

This lovely Chardonnay offers a delicious blend of fresh fruit, floral aromas and delicate spice. On the nose, notes of clove and nutmeg lead to layers of apple, pear, quince, orange peel and Meyer lemon. The palate is lively and fresh, with crisp acidity and mineral tones adding brightness and length to flavors of citrus, apple, fresh cream and French oak. Hints of hazelnut and toasted bread linger on the long, satisfying finish.



CHAPPELLET