



IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes for this Napa Valley Chardonnay were sourced from three vineyards in Napa and the Napa Carneros region. The cooler climate of Carneros contributed texture while the fruit from Southern Napa provided a warmer fruit profile leading to a beautifully balanced Chardonnay.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

The unseasonably warm temperatures in the early growing season in the Napa Valley in 2015 resulted in early bud break and bloom. Colder temperatures later in the season caused uneven fruit set and resulted in a smaller crop than previous average yields. Winemakers and vineyard crews worked diligently to pick and sort the best berries. Harvest began as early as July 22nd, one of the earliest harvests recorded and concluded by mid-October. While drought was still a concern for most of California, Napa Valley received 75% of normal rainfall for the water year.

CONVERSATION WITH THE WINEMAKER

The grapes for this Chardonnay were whole cluster pressed and fermented in a mix of neutral French oak and stainless tanks. They were fermented at cool temperatures in the stainless steel to help preserve the bright fruit and freshness while the barrel fermentation brought out more of the creaminess and complexity. The wine went through partial malolactic fermentation to maintain acidity while bringing out more density and complexity. It was sur lie aged in neutral French oak barrels and tanks for 11 months before bottling with lees mixed every two-three weeks to help flesh out the middle palate.

WINE PROFILE

A beautiful golden color in the glass, our 2016 Napa Valley Chardonnay opens with fragrant notes of citrus blossom and guava with notes of blanched almond and vanilla. Crisp and bright upon the palate, flavors of lemon crème and muskmelon are accented with notes of toasted oak and minerality. The wine beautifully coats the palate and leads to a lingering, smooth finish.

TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: NAPA VALLEY

VARIETAL: 100% CHARDONNAY

ALCOHOL: 14.5% BY VOL.

PH: 3.51

TA: 6.7 G/L

AGEING: 11 MONTHS IN NEUTRAL FRENCH
OAK BARRELS