



2023

Estate Chardonnay

Russian River Valley



TECHNICALLY

HARVEST DATE

SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

pH

3.65

TA

.68

ALCOHOL

13.8%

WINEMAKER

JASON DELOACH

CASES PRODUCED

4140

ESTATE BOTTLED

May 16, 2024

AGING

8 Month in French Oak

27% New

THE VINEYARDS:

Cecil De Loach has been farming Russian River Valley Chardonnay for over 30 years and was among a small group of vintners that helped define this valley as a premier Chardonnay region. The coastal fog that covers these vineyards on our rolling hills allows the grapes to ripen slowly and give the flavors time to develop.

THE WINEMAKING:

Our Chardonnay grapes are crushed, destemmed and pressed immediately. The juice is then fermented in French oak barrels. The wine goes through a malolactic fermentation that naturally creates a light buttery flavor and softens the mouth feel. While on its lees the wine is hand stirred in barrel once a month and topped twice a month for eight months. This process develops additional complexity of flavors and aromas in the wine.

THE WINE:

Displaying colors of goldenrod, this 2023 Chardonnay elicits an aroma of lime zest and orange peel with a hint of buttered pie crust. The flavors exhibit subtle, creamy, Gravenstein apple with a touch of vanilla and gooseberry on the finish.



HOOK AND LADDER
CHARDONNAY SONOMA
COUNTY RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
2023

Aromas of yellow apples, citrus curd, honeycomb, nutmeg and light oak. The palate is full-bodied and textural, with balanced acidity and a soft, fruit-driven finish. Drink now. Screw cap.