

2019 Allen Vineyard Chardonnay

WINEMAKER NOTES

Aromas of yellow apple and Comice pear mix with hints of nutmeg and allspice in another great offering from the Allen Vineyard, while hints of green tea and fresh herbs offer additional complexity. The mouth-coating texture is supported by a terrific tannin structure that carries all the way to the piquant finish.

THE VINEYARD

The Allen Vineyard is adjacent to Rochioli Vineyard, approximately six miles southwest of the town of Healdsburg, banking the Russian River. Fog-cooled evenings and moderately warm daytime temperatures make the Russian River Valley region ideal for growing Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes.

HARVEST 2019

The 2019 growing season started with ample rainfall in the winter months and finished well above average. Wet soil and cool temperatures conspired to delay bud break nearly two weeks later than historical average. Moderate to slightly above average temperatures ensued and the vegetative cycle caught up. Flowering started under ideal conditions but a late May rain event delayed flowering for a week. This had some impact and created some shatter and smaller clusters. These smaller clusters are desirable because they are looser and the smaller the berry, the higher the tendency to yield concentrated and flavorful wines. The remainder of the growing season was largely uneventful. August was largely fog-free, so the nights were warmer and the days sunnier which tended to move photosynthesis and maturation along more quickly. The harvest schedule was mostly routine and rather leisurely with grapes arriving to the winery in pristine condition. The 2019 wines are impressive with excellent color, depth, and precision of site. The polish of the tannins and softer acid profiles will offer early appeal but can certainly hold on for years.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 25% new, 25% 1 yr., 25% 2 yr., 25% 3+ yr. Barrel Aged: 16 months pH: 3.40 TA: 0.57g/100mL Alc: 14.5% Released Fall 2021 \$65



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