

# WILLIAMS SELYEM



## 2020 Allen Vineyard Chardonnay

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Sun-ripened yellow apple and fresh pear, with hints of poached pear, come through on the nose. Crushed rocks and quartz aromas lift the aromatics along with a hint of ginger. The palate is wonderfully layered with excellent tannin structure and weight, which is typical, and remarkably consistent, for the Allen site. The finish is punctuated with a sensation of quinine, giving this wine terrific closure.

### 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 2020

The 2020 growing season started out very dry and bud break was delayed. Early spring rains recharged the soil profile, but periods of extreme cold caused many frost events throughout the Russian River Valley. Late spring yielded ample sunshine and moderate temperatures, and the plants responded very well with excellent canopy growth. The season ended up approximately 12% warmer than average and did not have any heat spikes until August. Harvest started in haste on August 12, ahead of an extreme heat wave. On the night of August 17, the weather changed and there was a rare dry lightning storm that sparked a fire on a hillside in remote west Sonoma County; later named the Walbridge Fire. In the Russian River Valley, it took a number of days for smoke to settle. Based on test result for smoke taint on the grapes, several coastal vineyards were not picked. For the vineyards which were picked, either before the fire or before the smoke settled, the result was concentrated wines with a darker, more brooding complexion. The polish of the tannin, coupled with excellent concentration, should allow for a wide drinking window.

### TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 22% new, 34% 1 yr., 22% 2 yr., 22% 3+ yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.17

TA: 0.63g/100mL

Alc: 14.2%

Released Fall 2022

\$65

