

RAM'S GATE

WINERY · SONOMA



2022 CHARDONNAY, BUCHER VINEYARD

APPELLATION

Russian River Valley

VINIFICATION

11 months in barrel
35% new French oak

CLONES

100% Hyde Wente

ALCOHOL

14.1%

COOPERAGE

Atelier Center of France, Sirugue

Our second release from this gem of a vineyard, this vintage is a true masterpiece. Cultivated on a sun-drenched sloping hillside on Westside Road, nestled in the heart of the Russian River Valley, Bucher Vineyard stands as a testament to a well-planned vineyard originally started by the late Leslie Rudd. After the stellar 2021 vintage, we expanded our acreage, only to face the setback of a late spring hailstorm during flowering. This challenging weather drastically cut our production, resulting in a yield of less than 2 tons per acre and a modest 120 cases.

This Chardonnay hails from a warmer microclimate within the Russian River Valley, where the dramatic ripening curve from veraison to harvest bestows the wine with its lush character and precise acidity. The nose is a bouquet of lemon confit, crème brûlée, and poached pear.

On the palate, the wine displays both volume and depth while retaining a vibrant freshness and nimbleness. After spending 11 months in barrel with a slightly higher proportion of new oak than in 2022, this Chardonnay is balanced and poised for a graceful evolution over the next decade in bottle.

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