

# RAM'S GATE

WINERY • SONOMA



## 2023 CHARDONNAY

### BUCHER VINEYARD

#### APPELLATION

Russian River Valley

#### VINIFICATION

11 months in barrel  
30% new French Oak

#### CLONES

90% Hyde Wente, 10% Musque

#### COOPERAGE

Mercurey, Atelier

#### ALCOHOL

14.1%

#### ABOUT THE WINE

One of the coolest vintages in recent memory, this Bucher Vineyard Chardonnay, typically among our earliest picks, lingered a few extra weeks on the vine this year, allowing for deeper flavor development and yielding one of the most intensely expressive versions since we began producing it in 2021.

The vineyard lies on rolling hillsides along the iconic Westside Road, within arm's reach of the Russian River. Heritage clones of Chardonnay thrive here, with the Hyde Clone playing the starring role in this cuvée. The Hyde Clone represents an expression of Chardonnay known for its small berries and mixed-size clusters, affectionately called "hens and chicks." This hallmark of premium Chardonnay contributes to the fruit of remarkable concentration and electric acidity. The downside? Yields are painfully low, often under two tons per acre, but the quality is undeniable.

Aromatically, it opens with classic notes of crème brûlée, lemon confit, and a striking flinty edge. That same character carries through on the palate, where rich layers of flavor and texture are balanced by pinpoint acidity.

The 2023 Bucher Vineyard Chardonnay is our third vintage from this exceptional site, and it may be the most refined yet.