

GARY FARRELL

VINEYARDS & WINERY

2020 Rochioli Vineyard Chardonnay Russian River Valley

VINEYARDS & VINTAGE NOTES

Rochioli Vineyard was originally purchased in 1938 by Joe Rochioli, Sr. The vision of growing Pinot Noir and Chardonnay along these fertile, gravelly soils was carried out by Joe Jr. after his father's passing in 1966. Most of the Chardonnay blocks are located at the far eastern edge of the estate, just off the meandering Russian River, where the vines literally soak up the remarkable terroir of the estate. The majority of this blend comes from the River Block, planted in 1989. The balance comes from the Mid-40s Block, a field selection planted in 1993, and Allen Block 1, planted in 1995. The partnership between Gary Farrell Winery and the Rochioli Vineyard began more than 40 years ago with a simple handshake and has become a fundamental part of our story here in the Russian River Valley. Beginning as one of the driest growing seasons in memory, the summer weather was relatively mild, with very few heat spikes, so the vines soaked up the sun, producing a beautifully balanced crop. Water stress from lack of moisture in the soil encouraged the vines to create magnificent concentration in the grapes, and ripeness was pretty close to ideal at picking despite harvest being cut short by some unexpected acts of nature.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were harvested in the cool morning hours at ~22.8° Brix. A quick pass was made through our rows a few days prior to harvest in order to drop fruit that didn't express the optimal flavor and concentration. As anticipated, the grapes that were delivered to the winery were packed with delicious, vibrant, varietally expressive characteristics. After a very careful hand-sorting, we combined all the fruit in the press, and used a gentle program to extract only the most desirable solids and phenolics. The resulting juice was left in tank to cold-settle overnight before transferring to 35% new and 65% one to three-year-old neutral French Oak Barrels and 500-litre French Oak Puncheons for fermentation and aging, where it remained for 10 months on its primary lees until it was time to bottle in June. The wines were racked off the primary lees only once, just before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Notes of climbing flowers and delicate perfume introduce this beautiful wine from the famed Rochioli vineyard. Abundant layers of stone fruits, graham cracker crust, and vanilla beans provide depth to the aroma profile, while hints of green apple and lemon curd compliment the package. Balanced upon entry, and superbly textural throughout the mid-palate, flavors of winter citrus deliver a bright, yet concentrated finish.



APPELLATION
Russian River Valley

COMPOSITION
100% Chardonnay

FERMENTATION & AGING
10 months, 35% new
French oak

ALCOHOL
13.9%

PH / T.A.
3.35 / 5.9 gm/L

PRODUCTION
372 cases

BOTTLING DATE
July 2021

RELEASE DATE
February 2023



garyfarrellwinery.com

10701 Westside Road | Healdsburg, CA | 95448 | 707-473-2900