

GARY FARRELL

VINEYARDS & WINERY

2021 ROCHIOLI-ALLEN VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

Vineyards

The grapes for this outstanding Chardonnay come from two different blocks within the Allen Vineyard, planted just to the south of the Rochioli Vineyard. The diverse soil types and unique microclimates of this site provides ideal conditions for Chardonnay. Each clone and field selection were chosen to take advantage of specific soil type, elevation, and exposure to the sun, generating wines that are vibrant and powerful, yet delicate and balanced. Some of the oldest vines have been nurtured by three generations of the Rochioli family. This blend is composed of clones 15 and 76 from two blocks at the Allen Vineyard.

Vintage

2021 was a spectacular vintage. It was a drought year, so Mother Nature was responsible for trimming yields and producing a plentiful and beautifully balanced crop. In 2021, the clusters were medium in size and the berries were plump with a good number of seeds, excellent skin to juice ratio and beautiful acidity. The summer months gave us beautiful ripening weather with very few heat spikes, allowing the grapes to ripen evenly, while having time to develop lots of flavor. Veraison began in mid to late July, and the weather until harvest was perfectly moderate, yielding excellent hang time and world-class wines.

Winemaking

The grapes were harvested at ~23° Brix in the cool morning hours to preserve freshness and fruit integrity, then whole cluster pressed using a modified Champagne program to gently press the grapes yielding beautiful, fluffy lees. After pressing, the juice was chilled to 45°F in the tank and allowed to settle for 24 hours before inoculating with Montrachet yeast. The wine was then transferred to 35% new French oak barrels and Puncheons (François Frères, DAMY, Dargaud & Jaegle), with just the right amount of light, fluffy, creamy lees for a healthy fermentation. Each barrel was carefully evaluated after ten months of aging, and the most elegantly structured wines were selected for this beautiful single vineyard wine.

Tasting Notes

Like stepping into an orchard on a beautiful day, your senses are immediately greeted by lush green and yellow apples, a dash of baking spices, and a bounty of bright sunshine. This bushel of flavor is carried by a generous, rounded palate perfectly framed by a squeeze of citrusy acidity into a pleasantly satisfying finish.

Appellation

Russian River Valley

Vineyards

Allen Vineyard

Composition

100% Chardonnay

Fermentation & Aging

10 months in 35% new
French oak

Alcohol

13.7%

pH / T.A.

3.19 / 7.8 gm/L

Production

278 Cases

Bottling Date

July 15, 2022

Release Date

September 2024

Retail Price

\$75