



MACROSTIE

2017 MacRostie Russian River Valley Chardonnay



ORIGIN: The grapes for this wine came from six exceptional vineyards in the famed Russian River Valley appellation, with each of these beautiful sites bringing something unique and appealing to the blend. The vineyards include the Dutton family's Jewell, Shop and Braughton ranches in the heart of the cool Green Valley region, Mirabelle and Wohler vineyards off of Wohler Road, and the Martinelli family's Woolsey Ranch.

VINEYARD NOTES: The 2017 growing season started off as a wet one. Record rainfall through April invigorated the vines and bolstered canopies. Moderate-to-warm temperatures followed, allowing the vines to bloom and mature fruit in a balanced and tempered way. We did apply more leafing in our canopy management to counter the invigorating effects of the rain. All of our Chardonnay was picked prior to the devastating wine country fires in early October, so that had no influence. We harvested the Chardonnay for this wine between mid-August and the end of September. This diversity in terms of harvest dates adds another element of complexity and intrigue to the blend.

WINEMAKING NOTES: All grapes went direct to press as whole clusters. By pressing gently as whole clusters, we were able to preserve the bright, delicate characteristics that we prize. After settling, the juice was racked into French oak barrels for fermentation to give the wine just a hint of toast and spice. We used just 17% new oak and 39% one-year-old oak (with the remainder being neutral) in order to allow the richness of the fruit to take center stage. Once primary fermentation was complete, the wine went through a secondary malolactic fermentation. The barrel-fermented wine lots were aged on the lees for nine months, with occasional stirring to increase richness and body. The final blend was assembled just prior to bottling, which occurred on August 9th, 2018.

TASTING NOTES: The Russian River Valley Chardonnay begins with gorgeous fragrances of papaya and lime. Along with its enticing tropical aromas, this wine displays a sophisticated note of crushed gravel. While it has a full, supple entry with a hint of creamy oak, the finish is refreshingly crisp and reminiscent of green apples.

This vintage produced about 23 barrels, 547 (750 ml) cases.
Alcohol percentage: 14.2%