

PAUL HOBBS

2020 CHARDONNAY RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Clonal selections: Hudson-Wente, Hyde-Wente, Batto, Calera, Mt. Eden
- Rootstocks: 420a, 101-14, 3309, 5c
- Sites: Various sites and exposures; many soils derived from weathered sandstone including Goldridge Series, brown sandy loam, and sandy clay.
- Yield: 3.69 tons/acre

GROWING SEASON

A dry winter started the season with less than half the region's average rainfall leading to a mild spring and early season bud break. Summer began with relatively moderate temperatures resulting in exceptional phenolic development, allowing fruit to ripen and mature slowly on the vine. Consecutive heat spells coupled with a rare mid-August lightning storm accelerated the start of harvest two weeks earlier than average. All fruit was hand-harvested within seven weeks, and although challenging on many fronts, our highly skilled team persevered at every stage and excelled in their meticulous picking, sorting, and barrel selections. While some wines will not be produced as they did not meet our standards for quality, those that were are in very small quantities, ensuring the limited remaining bottlings showcase their full character with great energy, depth of flavor, and focus.

HARVEST

- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- Harvest dates: September 3 - 21

WINEMAKING

- Hand-harvested, picked at night
- Whole-cluster pressed while still cold from the field
- Barrel-fermented with indigenous yeasts, 7 months to completion
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrel
- Aged 10 months in French oak barrels; 36% new
- Coopers: Francois Frères, Cadus, Louis Latour, Taransaud, Vicard, Leroi, Billon, Rousseau, Damy
- Aged sur lies with bi-weekly bâtonnage
- Unfined and unfiltered; bottled January 2022

TASTING NOTES

Crafted with precision from six pedigreed sites comes a wine that beams with pale straw hue. The newest vintage brings wonderful aromatic intensity: candied lemon peel, white florals followed by crisp green apple. A creamy and viscous texture on the palate is buoyed by white nectarine and dried apricot that's balanced with a vibrant acidity, bringing focus to the wine's finish that lingers with hints of flinty mineral notes.