



# Girard

## 2017 CHARDONNAY RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

### VINTAGE NOTES

The 2017 growing season was a bit of a roller-coaster with heavy winter rains leading to vigorous vine growth in spring. Bloom came early, in parallel with an eclectic range of springtime temperatures. Moderate early summer temperatures gave way to several heat waves throughout the summer and into fall, heightening the rate of ripening. However, given the region's geography and typically cooler climate—due to a nightly fog layer—grapes tend to ripen slower, and develop a certain characteristic acid structure and character in the Russian River Valley. The quality of fruit was once again impressive, marked by complex citrus and stone fruit character.

### VINEYARD NOTES

Sourced from select vineyards including Bialla and Dutton Vineyards in the Russian River Valley appellation of Sonoma County. These vineyards have garnered worldwide acclaim for producing world-class Chardonnay.

While Girard is primarily known for crafting Napa Valley wines, we decided long ago to source Chardonnay from the Russian River Valley; its climate and soils impart distinctive acidity, minerality, and balance which further elevate the noble grape.

### TASTING NOTES

On the nose this wine has aromas suggestive of stone fruit and baking spices. The palate is endowed with lively acidity, and flavors of tangerine, juicy peach and hints of Bartlett pear. Building momentum across the palate this wine's finish is laced with hints of toasted barrel and crème brûlée.

**VARIETAL COMPOSITION** 100% Chardonnay

**APPELLATION** Russian River Valley, Sonoma County | **OAK AGING** 12 months *sur lies* in French oak, 35% new  
**ALCOHOL** 14.1% | **pH** 3.49 | **TA** .62g/100 ml | **Residual Sugar** 1.2/gL | **PRODUCTION** 198 cases produced