

2021 ODETTE RESERVE CHARDONNAY, NAPA VALLEY



VARIETALS

100 % Chardonnay



ALCOHOL

14.6%



PRODUCTION

26 barrels



BOTTLED

February 10, 2023



RELEASED

July 2023



WINEMAKER

Jeff Owens

AVA

Napa Valley

VINEYARD NOTES

This wine is crafted from the famed Hudson Ranch off Henry Road in the Carneros AVA of Napa Valley. 2021 is the final year working with both Block 5BS and 6S. These adjacent blocks bring a combination of different attributes that harmonize beautifully in the final blend. Both parcels are planted to one of California's most famous homegrown clones, "Old Wente", known for its characteristic "chicks and hens" grape clusters.

VINTAGE

The 2021 growing season was characterized by less than hoped for precipitation, low yields, and exceptional quality. Continued drought conditions restricted vigor and encouraged natural balance in the vineyard. A warm summer gave way to beautiful fall conditions that allowed our grapes to be picked at optimal ripeness and concentration.

FERMENTATION & AGING

The grapes were handpicked at night and arrived at the winery before sunrise to ensure fruit integrity and preservation of delicate flavors. Both blocks were whole cluster pressed on a very gentle four-hour cycle into separate tanks and allowed to begin fermenting spontaneously by indigenous yeast. The fermenting juice was then racked to French Oak barrels where both primary and secondary malolactic fermentation took place for over 24 weeks. Each individual barrel was sur lie aged and kept separate until the final selections were ultimately determined.

IMPRESSIONS

The 2021 Odette Reserve Chardonnay was 100% barrel fermented with indigenous yeast in 70% new French Oak and sur lie aged for 16 months. The long, drawn-out fermentation preserves aromatic nuance that complements the concentrated and complex palate. Top notes of lemon custard, acacia blossom, fresh pineapple, clove, and juicy stone fruit laced with wet stone. The palate blends rich texture buoyed by a core of vibrant acidity emblematic of the "Old Wente" clone. The finish is long and layered, showcasing flavors of toasted hazelnut and puff pastry.