

2022 ODETTE RESERVE CHARDONNAY, NAPA VALLEY



VARIETAL
100 % Chardonnay



ALCOHOL
15.0%



PRODUCTION
19 barrels



BOTTLED
February 16, 2024



AVA
Napa Valley

VINEYARD NOTES

This wine is crafted from the famed Hudson Ranch off Henry Road in the Carneros AVA of Napa Valley. 2022 marked a return to sourcing Chardonnay exclusively from block 5BS. This sun-kissed parcel delivers fresh stone fruit aromatics and concentrated tropical flavors. Block 5BS is planted to one of California's most famous homegrown clones, "Old Wente", known for its characteristic "chicks and hens" grape clusters.

VINTAGE

The 2022 growing season was defined by moderate drought conditions and punctuated heat events. Napa Valley enjoyed a warm spring and summer with short, innocuous heat spikes in late May and June. Labor Day saw a week-long heat dome settle over California, which kicked an earlier-than-anticipated harvest into high gear.

FERMENTATION & AGING

The grapes were handpicked at night and arrived at the winery before sunrise to ensure fruit integrity and preservation of delicate flavors. Whole clusters were loaded into the press for a gentle four-hour cycle where juice was allowed exposure to oxygen before being pumped into a stainless-steel tank. After spontaneous onset of fermentation by indigenous yeast, the fermenting juice was racked from tank to French oak barrels where primary fermentation finished in three months and secondary malolactic fermentation was arrested by the addition of sulfur in the spring of 2024. Each individual barrel was sur lie aged and kept separate until the final blend was assembled shortly before bottling.

IMPRESSIONS

The 2022 Odette Reserve Chardonnay tantalizes with aromas of citrus, white peach, Bartlett pear, and honeysuckle. A bouquet of graham cracker, baking spice, and lemon curd hint at secondary malolactic fermentation and extended barrel aging in new French oak. Quartz-like acidity energizes the palate with layers of macadamia nut, nectarine, and pineapple enveloped in creamy custard. The lingering finish is evocative of fading sparklers after fireworks on the 4th of July.