

DAVIS
BYNUM

RIVER WEST Russian River Valley | Sonoma County 2017 CHARDONNAY



VINEYARD

The River West Vineyard is located on Westside Road on a low riverside bench in the far northern end of the Russian River Valley. The soil is predominantly Yolo sandy silt loam with a pocket of gravelly Cortina soil in one block, both of which lend their unique characteristics to the finished wine. Winemaker Greg Morthole's delicate signature is embedded in each vintage as favored blocks and clones from River West are blended to showcase the terroir of each site. The result is a delicious Chardonnay that shows characteristics of its origins derived from careful and deliberate winemaking choices to highlight our best lots.

THE HARVEST

The local record for precipitation was set during the winter and spring of 2016-2017 as waves of showers swept over northern California, resulting in twice what we normally get. Consequently, flowering and crop set was irregular with lower yields than average. The summer was warm to hot, with sunny days in the Russian River Valley punctuated by heat spikes, and elevated nighttime temperatures leading up to harvest.

WINEMAKING

Our single vineyard River West Chardonnay gains its structure from its bright acidity, a defining characteristic that we temper by fermenting in French and Eastern European oak barrels, malolactic fermentation and sur-lie aging with monthly bâtonnage for added richness. The two central clones in this vintage, Clone 809 and Spring Mountain, offer tropical and floral notes while other Chardonnay clones were added for complexity and flinty minerality characteristic of this vineyard. The wine was aged for a full year in 30% new oak to round out the acidity, providing baking spice notes and a creamier mouthfeel.

TASTE PROFILE

The 2017 vintage has beautiful aromas of toasted sesame, marzipan, meyer lemon and baked apple. On the palate, the wine opens with toasty brioche, hazelnut and baking spices, with a lush finish that is balanced with acidity and a rich creaminess. Enjoy this Chardonnay with creamy cheeses, vegetable ravioli or grilled veal chops and mushrooms.



HARVEST DATE 9.1.2017 - 9.14.2017		AVG. BRIX AT HARVEST 24.6° Brix		VARIETAL 100% Chardonnay	
APPELLATION 100% Russian River Valley VINEYARD River West Vineyard, Westside Road WINEMAKERS Greg Morthole		SOIL Moderately deep, well drained soils			
		pH 3.30	TA 0.65g/100mL	ALC 14.5%	PRODUCED 13,817 cases
		CLONES 30% 809, 26% Spring Mountain, 24% 15, 20% 76		OAK AGING 12 months in French and Eastern European oak barrels, 30% new	



Davis Bynum is distinguished as the first winery to produce a single vineyard Pinot Noir from the Russian River Valley. The vintage was 1973 and the grapes were from Joe Rochioli's now prized vineyard. Today, our heritage of winemaking lives on through hand-crafted single vineyard wines grown exclusively in the Russian River Valley.