

DAVIS
BYNUM

RIVER WEST Russian River Valley | Sonoma County
2021 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 2021 vintage turned out to be a fantastic growing season, with no frost and very mild temperatures throughout most of the year. However, the unpredictable spring rains ended in March in what would become one of the driest seasons on record in Sonoma County. Despite a predicted early harvest due to dry conditions, we were pleased to find flavors and high acidities indicating everything was in balance and on track for a September 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. Four different clones were chosen to blend together for their unique characteristics. Clone 15 and 76 offer golden apple, pear and mineral notes while the Spring Mountain selection adds floral and tropical notes. These flavors are rounded out and blended beautifully by the vanilla and toasty notes imparted by the oak barrels.

TASTE PROFILE

The 2021 vintage features showy floral aromas with orange blossom and toasty oak. Floral tones and toffee flavors fill the mouth, complemented by a creamy yet light mouthfeel. The finish has a pleasantly light touch of acidity with a lasting note of golden honey. Enjoy this Chardonnay with a variety of salty cheeses, vegetable ravioli, grilled pork chops or creamy soups.



HARVEST DATE 8.27.21-9.7.21	AVG. BRIX AT HARVEST 22.9° Brix	VARIETAL 100% Chardonnay	
APPELLATION 100% Russian River Valley	SOIL Well drained sandy loam soils		
	pH 3.08	TA 0.64g/100mL	ALC 14.5%
VINEYARD River West Vineyard, Westside Road	CLONES 51% Spring Mountain, 23% 809, 12% 15, 8% 4, 6% 72		OAK AGING 14 months in French and Eastern European oak barrels, 23% new
WINEMAKERS Greg Morthole			



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.