

DAVIS
BYNUM

RIVER WEST Russian River Valley | Sonoma County
2022 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 but with a pocket of gravelly Cortina soil in one block. It has been said that Chardonnay shows the hand of the winemaker more than other varietals. Our winemaker, Greg Morthole, believes there is some truth in that, but also believes the best vineyard sites yield fruit that distinctively express the characteristics of their location in the finished wine. Greg's delicate signature is embedded in each vintage as favored blocks and clones from River West are blended to show off the terroir of that 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 2022 vintage was very mild. Rain from the previous autumn was light, and the new year entered warm and dry with daytime highs up to 70°F in early spring. An unusual sprinkle of rain in early summer was no cause for concern, and the temperature turned predictably hot a few days in June as usual, but the season was mild overall, with most summer days peaking around 85-90°F. An early harvest came as no surprise with the seasonable weather, as we picked the blocks over a week, from August 17 – 24, well before a big heat wave which came ten days later.

WINEMAKING

Six clones from different blocks at River West Vineyard were fermented separately and underwent malolactic fermentation, creating creaminess and complexity, to create our 2022 River West Chardonnay. Clone 809 adds exotic notes to the wine while the Spring Mountain selection drives the floral tones and adds volume. The remaining varieties add a mélange of flavors, most notably, zesty citrus and green apple. French and Eastern European oak aging lifts the fruit and adds elegant complexity to the wine.

TASTE PROFILE

Our River West Vineyard Chardonnay features enticing aromas of lemon curd, apple pie and graham cracker, along with flavors of baked golden apple, pie crust and a sweet floral undertone. French and Eastern European barrel aging brings a measure of dusty oak tones and notes of butterscotch, tempered by a balanced acidity. Enjoy this Chardonnay with a variety of salty cheeses, creamy soups or grilled pork chops.

*Our 2022 River West Chardonnay is a vegan wine.



HARVEST DATE 8.17.22 – 8.24.22	AVG. BRIX AT HARVEST 23.0° Brix	VARIETAL 100% Chardonnay	
APPELLATION 100% River West Vineyard, Russian River Valley		SOIL Well drained sandy loam	
VINEYARD River West	pH 3.27	TA 0.65g/100mL	ALC 13.5%
WINEMAKERS Greg Morthole	PRODUCED 16,340 cases	CLONES 809, 15, 76, 72, 4, Spring Mountain	OAK AGING 12 months in French and Eastern European oak barrels, 35% 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 wines grown exclusively in Russian River Valley.