

DAVIS
BYNUM

RIVER WEST Russian River Valley | Sonoma County
2018 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 2018 growing season was dry through the spring with well below normal precipitation. Cooler weather dominated this vintage with only two short, relatively mild heat spikes through the entire growing season. Summer days were very pleasant in Sonoma County with highs in the 70s and 80s and with August having even warmer temperatures. Harvest took place September 6 - 21.

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 2018 vintage opens with crème brûlée, mineral and floral aromas with notes of baked apple pie, marzipan, toasted marshmallow and floral flavors. The palate is rich and creamy but with substantial acidity leaving a lingering zip of acidity on the long finish. Enjoy this Chardonnay with a variety of salty cheeses, vegetable ravioli, grilled pork chops or creamy soups.



HARVEST DATE 9.6.2018 - 9.21.2018		AVG. BRIX AT HARVEST 24.2° Brix		VARIETAL 100% Chardonnay	
APPELLATION 100% Russian River Valley		SOIL Moderately deep, well drained soils			
VINEYARD River West Vineyard, Westside Road		pH 3.19	TA 0.64g/100mL	ALC 14.5%	PRODUCED 13,115 cases
WINEMAKERS Greg Morthole		CLONES 32% 15, 31% Spring Mountain, 27% 76, 10% 809		OAK AGING 14 months in French and Eastern European oak barrels, 23% 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.