

# 2013 Unoaked Chardonnay

#### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Sourced from multiple sites within the Russian River Valley, the Unoaked Chardonnay always offers a multitude of flavors and aromas. Notes of muskmelon and yellow apple are layered with the aroma of smoky tea. The rich profile almost seems electric on the palate. The quince-like tannic structure and minerality are signature components in this wonderfully expressive Chardonnay. With its refreshing acidity and full-bodied texture, this wine would be the perfect accompaniment to sushi or Dungeness crab dishes.

### THE VINEYARDS

The Chardonnay for this blend was sourced from our Drake Estate Vineyard, the Olivet Lane Vineyard, the Simpatico Vineyard, and the Lazy W Ranch on Westside Road.

#### HARVEST 2013

With great back-to-back vintages, 2013 was every bit as good as 2012 has proven to be. Amidst concerns about another drought year, the rain gauges filled up to about 80% of the yearly average. The growing conditions were very favorable, which resulted in a remarkably similar growing season to the exceptional 2012 vintage. The only notable difference, however, was the increase of heat units in 2013, as measured by the Growing Degree Day index. With below average rainfall for the season bud break initiated earlier than average along Westside Road. April showers helped to drive good shoot growth and set the plants up for May flowering. Excellent weather at flowering time allowed for fantastic set and a bountiful yield across all appellations and varieties. Even with an earlier start to the growing season, the grapes had the ideal amount of time on the vine to achieve full maturity without any threat of inclement weather late in the season. Wines from the 2013 vintage exhibit extremely pure and polished tannins and the acidity will provide longevity, but the supple structure also offers earlier enjoyment, as well.

## **TECHNICAL NOTES**

Barrel Description: 100% stainless steel

pH: 3.36

TA: 0.61g/100ml Alc: 13.2%

Released Spring 2015

\$39

