

# CHATEAU ST JEAN

## 2021 GAP'S CROWN CHARDONNAY

PETALUMA GAP

SONOMA COUNTY

Our roots are in Sonoma County. We have made wines from the region's diverse vineyards for over 50 years, starting in 1974 with our first vintage of single vineyard Chardonnay. Now celebrating our golden anniversary, we are proud to release this inaugural wine with continued dedication to Sonoma County and the special vineyard sites our grapes are grown.

### VINEYARDS

The Gap's Crown Vineyard sits near the town of Cotati at an elevation of 300 to 800 feet. A prestigious hillside vineyard that has established itself as a premium source for top rated Chardonnay. The vineyard benefits from the cool micro-climate of the Petaluma Gap with a terroir that is extremely rocky and well-drained. This produces Chardonnay fruit with a long hang time resulting in fruit characteristics that are elegant and well-balanced, with ideal levels of acidity

### VINTAGE

Minimal rainfall and moderate temperatures allowed for grapes with peak maturity while still retaining fresh acidity. With mild Winter and Spring temperatures, budbreak was ahead of average. Summer was warm and dry, with above average temperatures in August and September, leading to an early and fast ripening harvest. The warm weather resulted in ripe fruit flavors and one of the earliest starts of harvest in recent history.

### WINEMAKING

Our Chardonnay grapes from the Gap's Crown vineyard is whole cluster pressed into stainless steel tanks where the juice is cold settled. The juice is then barrel fermented to 100% malolactic fermentation and aged sur lies in French oak barrels (40% new) with monthly stirring for added texture and mouthfeel. A total of 18 months of oak age.

### TASTING NOTES

This elegant Chardonnay has aromas of Gravenstein apple, lemon zest and hints of cardamon spice. Vibrant acidity on the pallet with flavors of juicy apple and citrus. The finish is bright, long and creamy. This wine pairs perfectly with creamed corn or butter popcorn.

2021

APPELLATION	Petaluma Gap
VARIETAL	100% Chardonnay
OAK	100% French oak, 40% new
AGING	18 months
ALCOHOL	13.5%
T.A.	6.5 g/100ml
PH	3.2
PRODUCTION	350 (9L) cases