

# CHATEAU ST JEAN

## 2023 Founder's Block CHARDONNAY

CHALK HILL - RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

SONOMA COUNTY

Our roots are in Sonoma County. We have made wines from the region's diverse vineyards for over 50 years, starting in 1973. A fine wine estate with European style, we are proud to produce balanced and elegant wines, a hallmark of Chateau St. Jean. Our single-vineyard and blend expressions celebrate Sonoma County's distinctive, world-class growing region, and the special vineyard sites in which our grapes are grown.

### VINEYARDS

This Chardonnay comes from the historic Founder's Block planted on our sister property, Chalk Hill Estate in the Chalk Hill sub-appellation of Russian River Valley, Sonoma County. Planted to clone 97 Chardonnay, which was developed in partnership with UC Davis between 1996-2001, Chalk Hill is the only vineyard to grow this clone, making it a rare and highly coveted wine.

### VINTAGE

The 2023 growing season graced us with the slowest start in the last decade. A rainy winter set the vines up for vigorous spring growth, a larger crop, and a longer ripening season. Red and white varieties ripened simultaneously leading to a late, compressed harvest. The crop was bountiful and the quality outstanding.

### WINEMAKING

Our Founder's Block Chardonnay is hand-picked and then immediately whole-cluster pressed. After pressing, the juice is racked off the lees and barreled down to French oak (35% new) for fermentation and 16 months of aging. Regular lees stirring and 100% malolactic fermentation impart creamy texture and richness to the wine. The 2023 vintage was bottled on March 31, 2025.

### TASTING NOTES

Founder's Block is known for producing wines of exceptional character. The 2023 is an excellent representation of that. On the nose, stone fruit, spice, and subtle floral notes intrigue the senses. The first sip reveals baked apple, nectarine, and warm toasted oak spice. The rich, creamy mouthfeel is lifted by bright acidity, creating a well-structured, food-friendly wine. Enjoy served with mixed baby lettuces with grilled peaches, blue cheese, and toasted walnuts with white wine vinaigrette, or salmon with lemon-caper beurre blanc.

2023

APPELLATION	Chalk Hill - Russian River Valley, Sonoma County
VARIETAL	100% Chardonnay
OAK	100% French oak, 35% new
AGING	16 months
ALCOHOL	14.7%
T.A.	6.09 g/L
PH	3.38