



# ARISTA

## 2020 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

*Sonoma County*

### VINEYARDS

The Russian River Valley Chardonnay is a blend that combines old vine plantings, ideal growing conditions, and unique terroir producing a wine that demonstrates the full potential of the Russian River Valley. The combination of vine age, site, and winemaking produce a profound wine that provides great insight into the vintage and appellation each year.

### WINEMAKING

Cold grapes arrive at the winery early in the morning after having been picked at night. Grape clusters are sorted by hand and gently transferred as whole clusters directly into our press to undergo an extremely gentle press cycle lasting 3-4 hours. From the settling tank, the juice is moved to 60-gallon French oak barrels, where fermentation is allowed to occur naturally using only native yeast that come in from the vineyards. Limited battonage is used during the first 2-3 months of fermentation in order to encourage the development of a healthy yeast population. Once fermentation is safely underway the wine is not disturbed until the fermentation is complete, which typically takes about 10-11 months. Final blends are assembled and gently racked to stainless-steel tanks for about 4-6 months.

### TASTING NOTES

An exceptional snapshot of the 2020 vintage in the Russian River, this release is a blend of barrels from five Russian River Valley sites: Flora Marie, El Diablo, Ritchie, Banfield, and Arista's Westside Road Estate. With contributions from some of the finest Chardonnay vineyards in the appellation and made with slightly less new oak than the vineyard designates, this cuvée offers the highest level of early drinkability in the Arista portfolio while maintaining an extraordinary degree of quality. Notes of lemon curd, candied oranges, and white flowers are joined by notes of baking spices and caramelized sugar. A touch of flinty reduction and a citrus inflected acid backbone keep the finish fresh and lively.

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Vineyard Sources: Flora Marie, El Diablo, Ritchie, Banfield, and the Arista Estate Vineyards

Aging: Approximately 11 months fermentation and aging in barrel followed by 4-6 months in stainless steel. Unfined, unfiltered.

Alcohol: 14.2%

**ARISTA**

*Russian River Valley*

CHARDONNAY

*Sonoma County, California*

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