2022 MORELLI LANE VINEYARD CHARDONNAY Russian River Valley





PAIRING

"Watermelon feta salad or fresh burrata topped with peaches would be delightful pairings!"



COMPOSITION Chardonnay 100% | Hyde Clone

VINEYARD

Dutton Ranch operates over 80 vineyards in the Russian River Valley. Among them is the renowned Morelli Lane Vineyard, nestled on a picturesque hilltop beyond Occidental, CA. Planted in 1995, this vineyard produces exceptional Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Old Vine Zinfandel, with vines dating back to 1935. The Goldridge fine sandy loam soil reflects the terroir of the Russian River Valley. The vineyard is certified Sonoma County Sustainability-Farmed and Fish-Friendly, upholding the highest sustainability standards. With a dry-farming approach, it consistently yields chardonnays of unwavering character.

WINEMAKING

In the spring 2022, Bobby and Kylie set out to discover a new Chardonnay vineyard with unique characteristics. After researching the family Estate archives, they were captivated by Morelli Lane. They handpicked the fruit at sunrise and gently pressed it. The juice settled in a stainless-steel tank under cold temperatures for 48 hours. Once clarified, the juice was divided for fermentation in a concrete egg and French oak barrels. After fermentation, the team eagerly sampled the wine. The portion aged in neutral French oak barrels added complexity, while malolactic fermentation enhanced richness. Finally, in early spring 2023, the meticulous blending, celebrating the vineyard's qualities and fermentation techniques.

TASTING NOTES

Captivating aromas of apricots, peach, and nectarine. Explore hints of pineapple, caramel, and more as you take your first sip. Delicate notes of honeysuckle, kiwi, and passionfruit add to the experience. A touch of salted caramel candy creates a delightful surprise. This medium-bodied wine remains vibrant and strong until the last drop, thanks to its lively acidity. Get ready for a memorable journey that leaves you longing for more.

TECHNICAL

Alcohol: 14.1% | Vineyard: Morelli Lane | Cases: 125 pH: 3.39 | TA: 6.4 g/l | Harvest: August 23 | Brix: 22.8 Aging: 100% French oak barrel, 50% neutral | Bottled: August 2023

PRODUCER PROFILE

Winemaker: Bobby Donnell

Assistant Winemaker: Kylie Dutton

Estate Founded: 1995

Our family is six generations of forward-thinking West Sonoma County farmers. Each bottle of Dutton Estate wine is our way of sharing our love for this revelatory landscape, our commitment to sustainable farming, and our deep familial bonds.