

DARMS LANE

Napa Valley



2015 CHARDONNAY, OAK KNOLL DISTRICT OF NAPA VALLEY

VINEYARDS: The Estate Bon Passe Vineyard and its neighbor the Trefethen Vineyard are both located in the southwestern bench lands of Napa Valley, in the Oak Knoll District.

APPELLATION: Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley

GROWING SEASON: The 2015 vintage started out about two weeks earlier than normal with Chardonnay bud break in the first weeks of March. Another drier winter in 2014/15 created further concerns regarding the continuing California drought but water reserves were adequate to make it through the growing season. Temperatures were a bit more erratic for much of April and into May, but bloom and fruit set for the Chardonnay proceeded normally resulting in a crop that was just slightly below average. The temperatures were closer to average from June into mid-August. Brief warm spells in mid and late August nicely pushed the Chardonnay to ripeness about a week early with nice ripe fruit flavors and balanced acidity.

HARVEST DATE: Estate Bon Passe August 27th and Trefethen Vineyard September 14th

VARIETAL: 100% Chardonnay - 65% Estate Bon Passe Vineyard – 35% Trefethen Vineyard

WINEMAKER: Brian Mox

BARREL AGING: 10 months in Oak – 20% new: 100% French

WINEMAKING: 100% Barrel fermented with native yeast. The wine was aged sur lie and the lees were stirred every 2 weeks for the first 7 months of aging. The wine was 100% ML inoculated and completed.

TASTING NOTES: Refreshing and vibrant, our 2015 Chardonnay offers aromas of stone fruit, fig, brioche with hints of vanilla, lemon curd and orange blossom notes. The rich yet balanced palate presents Asian pear, vanilla cream and melon flavors. Medium body with a balanced creamy texture and long lovely finish that should pair nicely with food especially cream dishes. Enjoy!

PRODUCTION: 994 cases

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