

2015

DUTTON RANCH CHARDONNAY

Russian River Valley



PATZ & HALL



VINEYARD CHARACTER

Made with some of the oldest plantings of Chardonnay in western Sonoma County, this wine is predominantly a blend of California heritage clones and selections—Hyde-Wente, Robert Young, Rued, UC Davis Clone 4 and Spring Mountain. Since many of these vines are dry farmed, they produce small but intensely concentrated berries, making for great depth of flavor and texture. Historically, Dutton Ranch yields fragrant, tropical aromatics and a crisp mineral character.

TASTING NOTES

The 2015 growing season yielded an extremely fresh and dynamic expression of Dutton Ranch Chardonnay, offering lovely layered aromas of pear, pineapple, Gravenstein apple, taffy and white flowers. On the palate, a streak of minerality adds to this wine's graceful, energetic structure, underscoring the orchard fruit flavors of apple and pear. French oak-inspired notes of sweet smoke and burnt sugar add depth and nuance to a lingering finish. Once again, Dutton Ranch has delivered a wonderfully age-worthy wine that captures the charm and complexity of some of Sonoma County's oldest Chardonnay vines.

WINEMAKING

- 100% Chardonnay fruit
- Whole-cluster pressed
- 100% indigenous yeast
- *Sur lie* aged with weekly stirring
- 100% malo-lactic fermentation in barrel
- 35% new Burgundian French oak barrels

RELEASE DATE: August 2016

THE PATZ & HALL FAMILY OF WINEGROWERS

Gail, Steve and Joe Dutton - Dutton Ranch - Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

In 1969, Warren Dutton planted some of the first Chardonnay vines in western Sonoma. Sons Steve and Joe Dutton, along with their mother Gail, carry on in Warren's footsteps with what is now one of Sonoma County's most successful vineyard operations. We are able to select from ten blocks of Chardonnay largely planted with California heirloom clones (Robert Young, Rued, Hyde-Wente and UC Davis Clone 4) for the Dutton Ranch Chardonnay bottling.

James Hall
JAMES HALL | Winemaker

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