



RIVERBENCH



2023 CHAPEL VIEW CHARDONNAY *Estate Grown & Bottled, Santa Maria Valley*

COMPOSITION	100% Chardonnay, Clone 4
HARVEST	October 3, 2023
COOPERAGE	25% New French Oak
COOPERS	TW Boswell
ACIDITY	T.A. 0.69 g/100mL
PH	3.3
ABV	12.0%
BOTTLED	August 21, 2024
PRODUCTION	325 cases
PRICE	\$42

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Inspired by the historic Sisquoc Chapel, which overlooks our vineyard's picturesque Chapel View block, this Chardonnay is as lively and inviting as the landscape itself. Bright tropical notes of pineapple and lime lead the way, balanced by a subtle touch of buttery toast that adds depth and richness. Its versatility makes it the perfect companion for any occasion. Pair it with a burrata artichoke salad or roast chicken for a casual night in, crab claws with drawn butter for something indulgent, or simply a big glass with buttery popcorn and your favorite movie. Elegant, easygoing, and undeniably delicious.

2023 HARVEST

Vintage 2023 started off with above-average rainfall. Our vineyard received nearly 2.5 ft of rainfall from December to March, almost double the historical average. A large storm that passed through the area in early January, dropped 7+ inches of rainfall in a 24-hour period. Bud break was observed on February 27th, two weeks later than 2022 and one week later than 2021. The theme of "late" remained constant throughout the growing season. Bloom, set, and veraison were all 10-14 days later than the historical average. This was due in part to cooler spring and summer temperatures. The crop load was heavier than estimated in Pinot Noir and Chardonnay which also led to a longer ripening period. Our harvest period lasted from September 1st- October 18th. September weather provided steady ripening and great weather for our harvest crews. Seed and skin development outpaced Brix levels in most varieties which allowed us to harvest at slightly lower Brix than we do some years while maintaining quality.

