



# 2021 PLUMPJACK RESERVE CHARDONNAY, Napa Valley

### **VINTAGE**

The Napa Valley received only about one-third of our average rainfall in 2021 and it showed in the vineyards. The vines were stressed and yields were extremely low. While this isn't good for business, it's great for wine quality. The grapes were small and flavors were highly concentrated, which allowed us to craft wines of great intensity and depth. And with the deft hands of our winemaking team, we were able to maintain focus, precision, elegance, and beauty in these wines.

#### **FERMENTATION & AGING**

Our Reserve Chardonnay was fermented and aged in 63% stainless steel tanks and 37% French oak Burgundy barrels. These fermentations were kept cool – 52 to 55°F – to preserve the fresh fruit aromatics. The use of stainless steel also helps to retain the fresh, varietal character, while the oak adds depth and complexity. We do not allow this wine to undergo malolactic fermentation so that we can preserve the vibrant and lively acid on the palate along with the fresh aromatics.

## THE VINEYARDS

Our Chardonnay grapes are grown in two vineyards in the Napa Valley – one in Los Carneros and the other in St. Helena. At just 30 miles apart, Los Carneros can be 10 -15 degrees cooler than St Helena. Due to this difference in temperature along with important differences, such as soil type, these two vineyard sites vary greatly in character and expression. When blended, these differences in expression add layer upon layer of flavor to the nose and palate creating a beautiful and complex Chardonnay.

## WINEMAKER IMPRESSIONS

The 2021 PlumpJack Chardonnay boasts aromatics of baked pear and apple layered with tropical notes of kiwi, lychee, and melon, while still allowing the more delicate aromas of white peach and honeysuckle to shine through. The palate has ample weight and a creaminess reminiscent of a lemon curd, which is beautifully balanced by a bright and lively acidity that lends this wine it's energy and length.

VARIETALS/BLEND 100% Chardonnay PRODUCTION 3,254 cases ALCOHOL 14.2%