

# Chardonnay Chalk Hill Estate 2023



## Region

Sonoma County, California, is one of the most important winegrowing regions in the whole of the United States. Vines have been planted here since the 1850s and, apart from the inevitable hiatus brought about by Prohibition, the county's relationship with wine has been prolific and unbroken. Sonoma Valley is located in the county's southeastern corner, and effectively mirrors the shape and orientation of Napa Valley just across the Mayacamas Mountains. It encompasses Bennett Valley, Sonoma Mountain and the western half of Carneros – arguably California's finest "cool-climate" terroir. The Sonoma Valley climate is famously blessed with cooling fog, which rolls in from San Pablo Bay in the summer months. When combined with cooling ocean breezes, this means that Sonoma Valley is sufficiently cool yet sufficiently sunny to create wines which are elegant, bright and intensely flavoured.

## Producer

Chalk Hill Wine Estates were established in 1972 by Fred Furth, after he was flying his plane over the Russian River and caught his first view of a natural amphitheatre carved into the hills of eastern Sonoma. His intuition told him this would be a great vineyard. Nowadays the estate has 120 hectares under vine. The vineyards are spread throughout the Chalk Hill appellation and based between the cooler Russian River and warmer Alexander valley and has a broad topography and many different microclimates and all are farmed sustainably. Chalk Hill Wines have outstanding quality and are well regarded in Sonoma.

## Tasting Notes

The Chalk Hill Estate Chardonnay captures the vibrant, complex and classic character of the estate-grown grapes. The grapes spontaneously ferment in barrels with weekly batonnage for 5 months, the wine matures for a total of 9 months in French oak (45% new). This is a bold style of Chardonnay, it is creamy, rich and elegant with complex aromas and flavors of baked bread, pear, hazelnut, and toast.

## Food

Pairs well with roast chicken and creamy pasta dishes.

### Technical Information

|             |                           |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| Country     | United States             |
| Region      | Sonoma County             |
| Grape(s)    | Chardonnay (100%)         |
| Type        | White                     |
| Style       | Luxurious                 |
| Oaked Style | Oaked                     |
| Body Style  | Full bodied               |
| Sustainable | Yes-sustainable practices |

|                    |             |     |
|--------------------|-------------|-----|
| Dry/Sweet Style    | Dry         |     |
| Alcohol Content    | 15%         |     |
| Closure Style      | Cork        |     |
| Organic/Biodynamic | No          |     |
| Allergens          | Milk:       | No  |
|                    | Egg:        | No  |
| Vegetarian/Vegan   | Vegetarian: | Yes |
|                    | Vegan:      | Yes |



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