PAUL HOBBS

2019 CHARDONNAY
EDWARD JAMES ESTATE
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY, SONOMA COUNTY

VINEYARD
- Owner: Paul Hobbs Winery
- Sourced from: blocks c3, c2, b2
- Clonal selection: Hyde-Wente, Batto
- Rootstock: 420a
- Plant date: 2007
- Soils: Goldridge fine sandy loam
- Exposure: 2-9% slopes, nearly full exposure
- Trellis and pruning: vertical shoot positioned (vsp) | bilateral cane
- Yield: 4.50 tons/acre

GROWING SEASON
2019 was truly a remarkable year that may in time prove to be the standout vintage of the decade. The season began with steady winter precipitation and cool springtime temperatures helping preserve soil moistures throughout much of the growing season. After a rare May rainstorm, warm and dry conditions followed providing an optimal bloom and fruit set. The mild temperatures over the summer allowed grapes to ripen slowly and develop their phenolics gradually on the vine, a welcome sign for our team. After the record-breaking 2018 crop, 2019 came in much closer to historical averages. Harvest kicked off September 6 and lasted seven weeks, within its typical timeframe, bringing in fruit with exceptional energy, precision, purity of flavors, and superb balance.

HARVEST
- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- Harvest dates: September 17, 28

WINEMAKING
- Whole cluster pressed while still cold from the field
- Barrel fermented with indigenous yeasts; 7 months to completion
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrel
- Sur lie aging, biweekly bâtonnage
- Aged 15 months in French oak barrels; 50% new
- Coopers: Francois Frères, Louis Latour, Leroi, Billon
- Bottled unfined and unfiltered; January, 2021

TASTING NOTES
Showcasing a luminescent pale gold, our 2019 vintage bursts out of the glass with aromas of white florals, orange blossom and bee pollen essence. The wine is pure finesse, revealing a crisp texture with flint stone and ginger notes framed by lemon preserves and Honeycrisp apple. Backed by a crunchy acidity, the elegant finish is long and persistent with an intriguing tension and unmistakable energy.