

PAUL HOBBS

2020 CHARDONNAY GEORGE MENINI ESTATE RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Owner: Paul Hobbs Winery
- Sourced from: a8, c1, a10, c7, a9
- Clonal selection: Hyde Wente, Hudson Wente, Mt. Eden, 548
- Rootstock: 420a, swz, rg
- Plant date: 2015
- Soils: Goldridge sandy loam
- Exposure: eastern aspect
- Trellis and pruning: cane pruned, vertical shoot positioned (vsp)
- Yield: 3.55 tons/acre

GROWING SEASON

A dry winter started the season with less than half the region's average rainfall leading to a mild spring and early season bud break. Summer began with relatively moderate temperatures resulting in exceptional phenolic development, allowing fruit to ripen and mature slowly on the vine. Consecutive heat spells coupled with a rare mid-August lightning storm accelerated the start of harvest two weeks earlier than average. All fruit was hand-harvested within seven weeks, and although challenging on many fronts, our highly skilled team persevered at every stage and excelled in their meticulous picking, sorting, and barrel selections. While some wines will not be produced as they did not meet our standards for quality, those that were are in very small quantities, ensuring the limited remaining bottlings showcase their full character with great energy, depth of flavor, and focus.

HARVEST

- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- Harvest date: September 4, 7

WINEMAKING

- Whole cluster pressed while still cold from the field
- Barrel fermented with indigenous yeasts; 6 months to completion
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrel
- Sur lie aging, biweekly bâtonnage
- Aged 15 months in French oak barrels; 30% new
- Coopers: Leroi, Taransaud, Billon, Louis Latour
- Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered; January 2022

TASTING NOTES

Purchased in 2012 and planted 2015, our inaugural release displays pale straw and an elixir of gardenia florals, Asian pear, and baking spice. Flint and lemongrass, with a vibrant sea-salt and crushed rock mineral element. Soft texture, weighty mid-palate, tension, crunchy acidity.