



GARY FARRELL

Winemaker Theresa Heredia (pictured right) is a pioneer of cool-climate viticulture in Sonoma; she has been with the estate since 2012.



Russian River Selection Chardonnay 2021

Russian River Valley, California

ESTATE

For over 38 years, Gary Farrell Winery has crafted small-lot artisan wines capturing balance and stylistic elegance from some of the finest vineyard sites in the Russian River Valley. In 1985, Winemaker Gary Farrell released his 55 cases of 1982 Rochioli-Allen Pinot Noir to widespread critical acclaim. Since that release, the team at Gary Farrell Winery has consistently focused on rigorous vineyard selection, outstanding grower relationships, and superior quality fruit. For the past 8 years, the current owners have been dedicated to enhancing Gary Farrell's legacy with a single-minded focus on quality.

WINE

This layered and complex Chardonnay brings together fruit from several premier Russian River Valley vineyard sites. Anchored by the naturally balanced character of Westside Farms and intriguing floral and stone fruit notes from Bacigalupi Vineyard, the wine's great concentration and structure derive from the nearby Rochioli and Allen vineyards. Olivet Lane Vineyard, featuring the Wente clone, adds refreshing citrus tones and excellent acidity.

VINEYARD

Sources: Westside Farms, Bacigalupi Vineyard-Goddard Ranch, Olivet Lane Vineyard, Rochioli Vineyard, Allen Vineyard, Lazy W Vineyard, Martinelli Vineyard-Parnell Ranch, and Pratt-Cornerstone Vineyard
Farming: Sonoma County will become the nation's first 100% certified sustainable wine region; currently, 90% of Gary Farrell's grower partners are certified or pending certification through California's four accepted programs.

WINEMAKING

Harvest: Fruit is picked at slightly lower sugar levels in order to capture more varietal character, natural acidity and site specificity
Variety: 100% Chardonnay
Aging: 10 Months, French Oak (30% new)
Alcohol: 13.5%

VINTAGE

2021 was a spectacular vintage. It was a drought year, so Mother Nature was responsible for trimming yields and producing a plentiful and beautifully balanced crop. This was a nice contrast compared to previous drought years when the crop was very small and the wines were more muscular. In 2021, the clusters were medium in size and the berries were plump with a good number of seeds, excellent skin to juice ratio and beautiful acidity. The summer months had beautiful ripening weather with very few heat spikes, allowing the grapes to ripen evenly, while having time to develop lots of flavor. Veraison began in mid to late July and the weather from that point until harvest was perfectly moderate yielding excellent hang time and world class wines.



WINE ENTHUSIAST

"A flinty aroma, nervy acidity and lean, crisp fruit flavors give this medium-bodied wine a restrained expression at first, as notes of minerals and smoke dominate light tastes of green apples. The wine opens in the glass to show greater depth and breadth with more sipping." —J.G 12/2023