



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 2020

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 Wenté 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: 9 Months, French Oak (30% new)
Alcohol: 13.7%

VINTAGE

The growing season began with the driest February in recorded history. The dry weather continued through the spring months and even into summer, leaving the vines with very little soil moisture to maintain a healthy canopy. Budbreak and flowering began a couple of weeks ahead of the previous season, indicating an early onset of harvest. The summer weather was relatively mild, with very few heat spikes, so the vines soaked up the sun, producing a beautifully balanced crop with small to moderately sized clusters. Moving into late summer, veraison was early, but the weather and the crop were looking pretty close to ideal.



93

WINE ENTHUSIAST

"This buttery but not extreme wine is scented with popcorn and butterscotch followed by good acidity, cream and golden apple flavors, and a touch of lemon. It is nicely balanced, layered and oaky." —J.G 2/2023