



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2015 Reserve Chardonnay

Production: 489 cases

Composition: 100% Chardonnay

Vineyards: Chardonnay Golf Club, Mahoney and Johnson

Appellation: Napa Valley

Elevation: Foothills about 500 ft. and rolling hills

Cooperage: 90% new barrels (Stavin French Oak 60%, and Hungarian oak Trust barrels 30%)

Alcohol: 14.8%, TA 0.64, pH 3.57

Bottling date: August 18, 2016

Release date: Fall 2017

Release price: \$65.00

The 2015 Reserve Chardonnay is a rich elegant wine showing both its cool climate pedigree and the advantage that great sites have on Chardonnay. To protect our production of the Carly's Cuvee, we had pulled in Chardonnay from several vineyards in Napa and one old vine Chardonnay vineyard (Johnson) in Dry Creek. 2015 was an early year with some warm weather at the end, and acids dropped off quickly. Because of this, we did not put the wine through malolactic fermentation, choosing to preserve the individual character of the vineyards instead. The wine was barrel fermented with Montrachet yeast and then stayed in barrel for 10 months, with battonage every 2 weeks to increase depth and texture.

Winemaker Alison Doran's tasting notes:

The 2015 Reserve Chardonnay presents fresh aromatics of apples, pears and hints of caramel. This wine is beautifully balanced by lightly toasted oak. A silky entry develops into a smooth and rich midpalate. Deep flavors of toasted almond support the bursting flavor of golden delicious apple and light citrus accompanied by a long and mouth-filling finish.