

FRANCIS COPPOLA

DIAMOND COLLECTION

"The inspiration for the Diamond Collection was a bottle of 1906 Claret we found in the cellar of the Napa Valley property we purchased in 1975. I designed a new label reminiscent of this old bottle and created the Diamond Collection Black Label Claret, which is our company's most recognized offering. Today, Diamond Collection includes 13 varietals, each identified with a brightly colored label. The quality and authenticity of Diamond Collection is extremely important because we are a family company and our name is on the label. As such, you can trust that we'll always give you the very best."

—Francis Ford Coppola

FRANCIS COPPOLA DIAMOND COLLECTION 2014 GOLD LABEL CHARDONNAY

Diamond Collection wines are classic California expressions that offer fruit-forward, multi-dimensional flavor and immediate drinkability. Our Chardonnay hails from Monterey County. Part of the fruit comes from a vineyard in the Gabilan mountain range where sandy loam soils result in concentrated fruit. The other half comes from an Arroyo Seco vineyard that produces grapes with a high level of natural acidity. When these two wines are blended together, we create a Chardonnay with optimal balance. To further its complexity, the wine rests on its lees until such time as part of the wine is placed into barrels while the remainder is finished in stainless steel. This gives the wine subtle wood nuances without overpowering the more delicate flavors.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

2014 saw one of the earliest harvests in recent years. A very mild winter encouraged early budbreak. Then, spring and summer temperatures were quite warm, which led to early ripening and the need to start picking white grapes in August. Despite the overall warmth of the season, Monterey County experiences cool mornings and afternoons to preserve the fruit's natural acidity. We achieved very aromatic fruit that shows good balance and a voluptuous body. For this vintage, we added a bit of Viognier because we loved what its floral qualities did to the blend. We also added just a touch of Riesling to give the wine finesse and elegance.

TASTING PROFILE

Appearance Golden yellow
Aromas Pineapple, citrus, spring blossoms
Flavors Apple, apricots, tangerine



Corey Beck, Winemaker



Appellation Monterey County
Blend 90% Chardonnay
8% Viognier
2% Riesling
Alcohol 13.5%
Total Acid .65g/100ml
pH 3.53
Barrel Regimen 9 months French oak
Released May 2015