

FRANCIS COPPOLA RESERVE

STEVEN'S VINEYARD • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2017 CHARDONNAY



FRANCIS COPPOLA RESERVE

The connection between a vine and the soil it's planted in creates the essence of a wine. Francis Coppola Reserve wines are vineyard-specific creations produced in limited quantities. Our winemaking team hand-selects the best lots of fruit from each vintage that capture the unique qualities of these prestigious vineyards. From these selections, we craft small-batch wines which are reserved exclusively for winery guests, Wine Family members, and those who shop with us online.

STEVEN'S VINEYARD

The climate of the Russian River Valley is greatly influenced by fog that rolls in each evening from the nearby Pacific Ocean. This marine layer cools the vineyards down from their daytime temperature by as much as 35 to 40 degrees, creating a condition that allows the grapes to ripen slowly. Steven's Vineyard, where this year's fruit comes from, has gravelly soils that help the fruit retain a high level of natural acidity for balance.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2017 growing season presented smaller grape clusters with smaller berries and a lower yield, all of which contributed to excellent concentration. The grapes matured at a slow pace and harvested slightly later than the 2016 vintage. With an extra week or two of maturation, the vines developed a lush, voluminous palate that is very well-balanced and finely tuned because of the fruit's high level of natural acidity. With this excellent crop of fruit, we were very selective about the barrels and toast level we used for aging.

TASTING NOTES

We crafted this wine using an Old-World winemaking approach. Elegant and complex in character, the wine presents a beautiful fragrance with notes of tangerine, pear, and Meyer lemon. The initial flavors are highlighted by pineapple and peaches that give way to subtle minerality. While there is a distinct lushness about this wine, bright acidity creates an impeccable balance that is further enhanced by a gentle touch of oak which lends just the right amount of toast and smokiness.

Appellation: Steven's Vineyard,
Russian River Valley

Blend: 100% Chardonnay

Alcohol: 14.1%

Total Acid: .58g/100ml

pH: 3.58

Barrel Regimen: 10 months in French oak,
20% new oak

FRANCIS FORD
COPPOLA
WINERY

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