

AVA Knights Valley VINEYARD Knights Bridge Estate Vineyard BLOCKS 2B, 9A, 9B VARIETY 100% Chardonnay CLONES 4, Wente, Robert Young SOIL White-ash tuff loam HARVEST DATE September 13, 2021 COOPERAGE 10 months in 40% new French Oak ALCOHOL 14.5% PH 3.9 TA 4.6 g/L BOTTLING DATE July 25, 2022 RELEASE DATE March 1, 2023 CELLARING Drink now through 2035

# 2021 PONT DE CHEVALIER CHARDONNAY knights valley, sonoma

### VINTAGE

The 2021 growing season began cooler than usual with occasional light rains, bringing budbreak slightly later than expected. Spring and summer were mostly dry, but without the long, lingering heatwaves of recent years, allowing fruit to ripen at a normal rate. Higher temperatures in the late summer and early fall brought an earlier and faster harvest to ensure all fruit was picked at optimum ripeness. Crop yields were lighter than average, but with intense flavor profiles and outstanding quality.

#### WINEMAKING

Fruit from blocks 2B, 9A and 9B was hand-picked in the early morning hours of September 13. The grapes were gently pressed and settled, then racked to 40% new French oak barrels for fermentation at cool temperatures. Once primary fermentation was complete, the wine remained in barrel ten months on fine lees, with minimal stirring after the secondary malolactic fermentation completed to maintain freshness in the finished wine.

#### TASTING

The 2021 vintage delivers a refined expression of Chardonnay. Sourced from multiple parcels on our estate vineyard, its aromas offer bright Meyer Lemon and sweet brioche. The middle palate has ample energy with vibrant citrus fruits and fine pastry crust flavors, complemented by a thread of minerality that runs through this transparent and refreshing wine. Enjoy now through 2035.

## FOOD

The Pont de Chevalier stands out for those who love Old World Chardonnay. This wine will pair perfectly with seafood; oysters, coquilles Saint Jacques, or sea urchin are ideal matches. Vegetarian options include farm eggs poached in white wine, or Richard Olney's Roussin D'épinards, a delightful spinach gratin.