

Knights Bridge



2023 KELLEY

CHARDONNAY

KNIGHTS BRIDGE ESTATE VINEYARD
BLOCKS 9A, 9B
KNIGHTS VALLEY

AVA	Knights Valley		
VARIETY	100% Chardonnay		
HARVEST DATE	October 3 - 6, 2023		
AGING	12 months, 53% new French Oak		
COOPERS	Francois Frere, Damy, Cavin		
ALCOHOL	I4.1%	PH 3.3	TA 7.0 g/L
BOTTLING DATE	December 18, 2024		
RELEASE DATE	September 1, 2025		
CASES	210		
CELLARING	Drink now through 2043		

VINEYARD BLOCK DETAIL

BLOCK	ELEVATION	ASPECT	VARIETAL	SOIL	TRELLIS	CLONE	VINES	ACRES	SPACING	PLANTED
9A	600 ft	N/NE	Chardonnay	Goulding	VSP	Wente	1,748	1.28	8 x 4	2013
9B	600 ft	N/NE	Chardonnay	Goulding	VSP	Robert Young	1,378	1.01	8 x 4	2013

ACCOLADES

96 James Suckling | 94 Decanter | 94 Wine Advocate

VINTAGE

The 2023 growing season kicked off in Knights Valley with above-average winter rains, which replenished reservoirs and rejuvenated soils. While cooler temperatures meant a slow start, the abundant rainfall fostered lush canopy development in late spring and summer that led to balanced yields at harvest. Picking started slightly later than usual but finished by mid-October, delivering exceptional fruit with deeply intense flavors.

MONTHLY AVERAGE HIGH/LOW TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
	57.6	59.7	57.2	73.5	77.4	81.5	92.6	91.2	82.2	81.3	70.3	66.3
	38.2	31.6	36.5	38.4	45.9	48.7	50.7	53.4	48.5	40.2	31.3	33.5
	0.35	0.11	0.34	0.03	0.04	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.02	0.01	0.0	0.0

WINEMAKING

Fruit was hand-harvested in the early morning, pressed gently, fermented natural, and left in new and neutral French oak puncheons from Francois Frere, Damy and Cavin. Throughout the extended élevage on lees, this Chardonnay truly makes itself, clearly expressing the terroir of the vineyard with complexity, richness, and finesse in the finished wine.

VINEYARD

This wine comes from our highest elevation Chardonnay blocks and is planted in Goulding Soil Series, a mix of ancient volcanic and sedimentary soil with patches of rocky red clay. These two blocks are hit by the morning sun with their north-northeast facing exposure, which helps maintain delicacy while developing concentration from the well-drained soil. Block 9A contributes good structure and concentration of flavor, while Block 9B delivers lush yellow fruit flavors, with floral notes and traces of minerality.

VINEYARD COLLECTION

Our Vineyard Collection wines highlight unique characteristics from specific blocks. These place and terroir-driven wines reflect a pure expression of our estate vineyard in Knights Valley and winemaker Derek Baljeu’s guiding hand to bring out their highest qualities. Each block name is grounded in family and our rural roots to reflect and honor our values. This exceptional Chardonnay is a love letter from founder Jim Bailey to his wife, Kelley.