



GARY FARRELL

Winemaker Theresa Heredia (pictured right) is a pioneer of cool-climate viticulture in Sonoma; she has been with the estate since 2012.



Russian River Chardonnay 2018

Russian River Valley, California

ESTATE

For over 38 years, Gary Farrell Winery has crafted small-lot artisan wines capturing balance and stylistic elegance from some of the finest vineyard sites in the Russian River Valley. In 1985, Winemaker Gary Farrell released his 55 cases of 1982 Rochioli-Allen Pinot Noir to widespread critical acclaim. Since that release, the team at Gary Farrell Winery has consistently focused on rigorous vineyard selection, outstanding grower relationships, and superior quality fruit. For the past 8 years, the current owners have been dedicated to enhancing Gary Farrell's legacy with a single-minded focus on quality.

WINE

This layered and complex Chardonnay brings together fruit from several premier Russian River Valley vineyard sites. Anchored by the naturally balanced character of Westside Farms and intriguing floral and stone fruit notes from Bacigalupi Vineyard, the wine's great concentration and structure derive from the nearby Rochioli and Allen vineyards. Olivet Lane Vineyard, featuring the Wente clone, adds refreshing citrus tones and excellent acidity.

VINEYARD

Sources: Westside Farms, Bacigalupi Vineyard, Olivet Lane Vineyard, Rochioli Vineyard, Allen Vineyard, Lazy W Vineyard and Martinelli Vineyard

Farming: Sonoma County will become the nation's first 100% certified sustainable wine region; currently, 90% of Gary Farrell's grower partners are certified or pending certification through California's four accepted programs.

WINEMAKING

Harvest: Fruit is picked at slightly lower sugar levels in order to capture more varietal character, natural acidity and site specificity

Variety: 100% Chardonnay

Aging: 9 Months, French Oak (30% new)

Alcohol: 13.3%

VINTAGE TASTING NOTE

After several years of drought, heat and early harvests, 2018 was a breath of fresh air and a return to a more normal harvest. The nearly perfect weather throughout the summer months led to a very large, yet excellent quality crop. Despite the quantity of clusters per vine, flavor, concentration and tannin levels were quite excellent.

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FULL REVIEW TO BE PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER, 2020 *EDITORS' CHOICE*

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