



Vintage

2016

Varietal

100% Chardonnay

Appellation

Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley

Estate Vineyard

100% Main Ranch

Harvest

August 17–September 17

Oak

9 months in (19% new) French

Barrel Fermentation

69%

Malolactic Fermentation

8%

Alcohol

13.4%



2016 Chardonnay

The Vintage

Much of our winter rain came late, with almost 12 inches in March alone. With a very warm spring, the vines were running about three weeks early heading into the summer months. July and August were cooler than average, with foggy mornings, mild sunny afternoons and no severe heat spells. Vineyard temperatures rose again in September and harvest dates were early by about two weeks. The heat in the spring and again in the fall provided welcome bookends to the mild summer. The grapes benefited from increased hang time and showed fantastic character development.

The Wine

The nose opens with bursts of green apple, toasted brioche, honeysuckle and lemon cream pie. The palate is full yet bright, offering a pleasant viscosity and subtle notes of clove and tropical fruit. The clean finish adds an exclamation point with elegance.

Food Affinities

The perfect balance of body and acidity makes this an ideal food wine. Recipe ingredients which complement the wine are almonds, hazelnuts, tarragon, lime zest and lemon thyme. Restrained use of mild mustard is also a good match. Serve with seafood or lighter meats.

94 POINTS (v. 2016)
Wine Enthusiast August 2018

90 POINTS (v. 2016)
Wine & Spirits August 2018

93 POINTS (v. 2016)
Anthony Dias Blue, *Blue Lifestyle* February 2018

92 POINTS (v. 2016)
California Grapevine ~ #1 Chardonnay in Flight April 2018

90 POINTS (v. 2015)
Robert Parker, *Wine Advocate* December 2016

TOP TEN WINES BY THE GLASS (v. 2015)
Wine & Spirits Restaurant Poll April 2017

In 1979, Trefethen 1976 Chardonnay was named “Best Chardonnay in the World” at the Gault Millau World Wine Olympics in France, beginning a tradition of excellence with this most popular of white wines. Key to our success is our vineyard’s location in the Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley, where well-drained, loamy soils and a marine-influenced climate yield Chardonnay grapes with rich, balanced flavors.

