

CATERWAUL

2024 CATERWAUL NAPA VALLEY CHARDONNAY

NOTES

Able to hold the “Napa Valley” designation with 100% of our fruit from the region, our second edition of Caterwaul Chardonnay is a step-up in seriousness. Sourced from hillside vineyards just north and west of the town of Napa the majority of the vines were planted in 1985. Clonal material consists of heritage California and Burgundy genetics.

Barrel fermented and aged on lees for 15-months, early reductive winemaking choices help preserve the wine for bottling and aging highlighting the freshness and coy complexity of our winemaking style. Full-bodied aromatics of Meyer lemon, creme-fraiche and flint frame an initial taste of fresh-cut stone fruit. The mid-pallet is supported by a firm line of lanolin-coated mouthfeel, helping to shepherd the citrus notes towards a mineral finish touched with salinity. 25% new French-oak from Latour donates soft-toasted vanilla notes. An easy choice for food-pairing, this wine is ready to enjoy now and also has the structure to lay down in the cellar a few years.

VINTAGE

2024 followed form for recent vine-dormancy periods with above average rainfall and a cooler start to the growing season. Summer heat eventually showed up without any of the heat-spikes that can alter the course of a vintage. A larger crop and cool spring initially signaled a long, late harvest like the previous vintage. However, moderate August and September warmth pushed vines back to more average pickdates. Ideal for locking in optimal white grapes, the growing season softened fresh, aromatic wines with a stone-fruit sucrosité. Abundance was the theme in 2024 for white wines, and we are delighted when good weather pushes a big crop to the finish line and rewards our patience.

PARTNERSHIP

A partnership between Matt Hardin and Thomas Brown was formed during the 2014 vintage after countless years of working together. Out of that friendship the idea of utilizing the strengths of one another gave birth to Caterwaul wines. Matt Hardin, a 6th generation Pope Valley resident and farmer, is owner of Hardin Vineyard Management, one of the most renowned vineyard management companies in Northern California as well as his own Matthew Wallace Wines. Thomas Rivers Brown, winemaker for some of Napa and Sonoma’s most iconic labels (Schrader Cellars, Outpost and his own Rivers-Marie, Aston & Dorsey), has more than sixty 100-point wines to his resume.



APPELLATION:

Napa Valley

VARIETAL:

Chardonnay

BARREL AGING:

100% French Oak, 25% New
15 Months in barrel,
barrel-fermented

ALCOHOL:

13.5%

TOTAL PRODUCTION:

670 Cases