

KNUTTEL

FAMILY

2021 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY



“Kate’s Pas de Deux”

91 PTS WINE ENTHUSIAST
DOUBLE GOLD 2023 PRESS DEMOCRAT NORTH COAST WINE
COMPETITION

The 2021 Chardonnay from Knuttel Family meshes a patchwork of blocks at Windsor Oaks Vineyard in the Chalk Hill sub-appellation of Russian River Valley, vines cherished and utilized by winemaker William Knuttel over two decades. Fruit from Brad Alper’s Square Peg Estate Vineyard added floral notes, and a dash of old Wente clone Chardonnay farmed by John Frey in Sonoma Valley enhanced the complexity and structure of the blend.

As always, Knuttel Family Russian River Valley Chardonnay is handcrafted in classic Burgundian style—Kate’s Pas de Deux, a wine dance in which balance results from strength and poise, intensity, and finesse. Whole cluster pressing ensured maximum flavor and minimal working of the skins. All lots were barrel fermented in French oak. Lees were stirred every two weeks through a partial malolactic fermentation, then monthly during barrel aging. The master blend was bottled unfinned.

The Knuttel Family 2021 Chardonnay is well-articulated with aromas of bright lemon, juicy green apple, tropical fruits, and orange blossom. The viscous, structured palate adds notes of nutmeg, ripe citrus and vanilla, merging in an elegant finish. The wine’s balance makes it incredibly versatile with your favorite dishes—be adventurous!

Brix at harvest: 23.7% (average)

Bottling pH & Titratable acidity: 3.48, 5.8 g/L

Alcohol: 13.9% by volume

Residual sugar: 0.08% by weight (dry)

Aging: 9 months in French oak, 30% new oak (Francois Freres, Damy, Tonnelleries O)

Production: 1845 cases