

# Olivet Lane

VINEYARD

ESTATE BOTTLED



## 2018 LATE HARVEST CHARDONNAY

### VINEYARD NOTES

The Olivet Lane Vineyard, named for the mature olive trees lining the entrance, has been faithfully tended by the Pellegrini family for over 40 years. This prime Russian River Valley property is now expertly managed by 4th generation, Alexia Pellegrini. Originally an apple and plum orchard, the 70-acre property on West Olivet Road in Santa Rosa was purchased by the Pellegrini family in 1973. This prime Russian River Valley property was converted to a vineyard in 1975 with the planting of Pinot noir and Chardonnay. Approximately two-thirds of the vineyard's 58 planted acres are dedicated to the Wente selection of Chardonnay. The Olivet Lane Vineyard is situated in the heart of the Russian River Valley's low-lying Laguna de Santa Rosa Plain region, distinguished by the maritime fog influence sweeping up from the Pacific through the Petaluma Gap to the South. The cool climate extends the growing season, creating the opportunity for the grapes to ripen slowly and reach their full flavor potential while retaining their natural acidity, producing wines that are elegant and age-worthy.

### TASTING NOTES

Our first estate dessert wine, our Late Harvest Chardonnay is made in a white port fashion, punctuating after-dinner cheese and desserts. Botrytized & fortified, the wine has a residual sugar of 81 g/L. Honey, walnut, pickled cherry peppers and white raspberry are prominent on the nose. Sweet baked apple on the tongue is beautifully integrated with hints of cinnamon, star anise, cedar, and vanilla. Ageworthy.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

Select Chardonnay clusters were hand-harvested by daylight, to aid in our selection of only the ripest choice clusters. Upon arriving at the winery, grapes were foot treaded in bin to assist in maceration and plumping of raisins. Left overnight in bin to soak out, the grapes were then gently basket pressed. To our delight, our press pan sugar sample was an astonishingly high 38 Brix. Juice was left to settle over Thanksgiving weekend, before being barreled down for fermentation. While fermenting in barrel, we went to work on the second component, brandy distilled from our estate Olivet Lane Chardonnay wine & lees. Using a copper pot still, we turned two kegs of our estate Chardonnay wine & lees into 5 gallons of distilled brandy. When the late harvest in barrel was down to 16 Brix, brandy was added to stop the fermentation process by killing the active yeast, allowing us to use very little sulfur in preventing spontaneous fermentation. Through the aging process, barrels were topped less often, in order to encourage controlled oxidation to complement the complexity of the botrytis.

AVA: Russian River Valley  
VARIETAL: 100% Chardonnay  
ALCOHOL: 17.8%  
TA: 8.02 g/L  
pH: 3.79  
RS: 81 g/L

HARVESTED: November 19, 2018  
BOTTLED: August 10, 2020  
AGING: 20 months in neutral french oak  
CLONE: Old Wente  
SOIL: Gravelly, clay loam

*"There is clearly something special about the combination of soil, rootstock and clone at Olivet Lane Vineyard."*

—RUSTY GAFFNEY, THE PINOT FILE

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