



# THE TEMPTRESS

## 2021 CATTLEYA CHARDONNAY



*"Temptation often leads to desire."*

### THE VINEYARD SITE

The Martaella Vineyard is located in the heart of the acclaimed Russian River Valley AVA in Sonoma County, California. This 42 acre vineyard, planted to both Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, benefits from the cool, coastal influences of the Pacific Ocean, which allows for optimum growing conditions for these famed Burgundian varieties. The tight spacing of these meticulously farmed rows produces fruit with exceptional intensity and concentration of color and flavor. The end result is a wine of unmistakable purity that reflects the unique relationship between a truly special piece of land and the ideal climate that surrounds it. This wine is composed of Old Wente.

### THE CRAFT

Harvest took place in the early morning hours of September 1st to the 6th. All of the fruit was gently whole-cluster pressed and the juice was cold-settled overnight before racking to barrel the next day for native fermentation in 60% new French oak barrels. Primary fermentation continued steadily over the following four months, followed by full malolactic fermentation. After an additional 18 months of peaceful aging in barrel, this wine was gently racked to tank before being bottled without fining or filtration. Bottling took place March 1st of 2023.

### THE MEANING BEHIND THE NAME

With the hero tempted into desire by a goddess, so too does this wine tempt the senses as it shimmers in the glass. Chardonnay from the Russian River Valley has many recognizable traits due to the long, warm, sunny days and cool, foggy, coastal nights. So much of this is expressed through a delicate, yet pronounced balance of texture, volume and vibrant acidity. This bottling represents my desire to produce a Chardonnay that remains true to its roots and, more importantly, cannot be resisted.



### THE TASTE

Splashing into the glass with its shimmering lemon core, this Chardonnay is soft and suggestive at first, with subtle notes of chalky, wet stone and citrus blossom that give way to more pronounced aromas of stone fruit, juicy red apple, and toasted almond skin. Proving power and elegance, this wine strikes an energetic chord on the palate as ripe pear, fresh vanilla bean, and toasted brioche seamlessly flow to an undertone of candied lemon peel that drapes itself over a taut pillar of vibrant acidity and layered texture.

Alc: 14.5% Cases produced: 210 cases (9L equivalent)  
- 750 mL. SRP: \$75.