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2014 EYRIE VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY ESTATE

THE WINE

The Chardonnay estate is a barrel selection. Since each barrel ferments with its own yeast and ages at its own rate, each barrel becomes very distinct. Before bottling, Jason tastes each barrel. Those barrels which speak to the longest aging potential become the Original Vines Reserve. This estate, on the other hand, is blended from those barrels which offer the most immediate pleasure. Light, opulent and enticing, the 2014 Chardonnay is soft on the palate with balanced acidity.

THE VITICULTURE & VINIFICATION

Certified organic. The oldest vines in the Willamette Valley are also among the last surviving vines of the Draper selection, a French import from the 1930s now extinct outside of our region. Picked by hand, the grapes were pressed in a combination of antique basket press and Champagne cycle press. Juice was run to neutral French oak barrels on the lees for 11 months without stirring, and bottled with a light filtration.

THE VINTAGE

Globally, 2014 was one of the hottest years of the last century. Oregon followed this trend towards warmer temperatures. Fortunately rainfall was above normal in the spring and fall, so vines didn't experience drought stress. Summer temperatures were consistently warm, but without any days of extreme heat.

Picking commenced on September 23rd, making it our third earliest harvest ever. Ripeness was a fast-moving target. We had to pick quickly in order to preserve the natural acidity of the grapes. A year like 2014 offers easy fruit aromas and flavors. The wines have the density and opulence to reflect the vintage but kept their poise in the process.



TECHNICAL NOTES

FERMENTATION	<i>Natural French Oak</i>
PRODUCTION IN CASES	395
BOTTLING DATE	<i>August, 2015</i>
APPELLATION	<i>Dundee Hills, Oregon</i>
VINEYARD SOURCE	<i>The Eyrie Vineyard, planted in 1965</i>
pH	3.25
TOTAL ACIDITY	5.5 g/L
ALCOHOL % BY VOLUME	13.21
RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICE	\$27.00

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES & RAINFALL

