

# WILLIAMS SELYEM



## 2022 Drake Estate Vineyard Chardonnay

### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Hints of Meyer lemon combine with mandarin orange and tropical notes in this exotically aromatic wine. A trace of shiso leaf perks up in the background, showcasing the cool climate nature of the vineyard. The Meyer lemon theme carries through on the palate and is round and unctuous without ever being heavy. The wine finishes with a spiciness reminiscent of the Meyer lemon skin.

### THE VINEYARD

The Drake Estate Vineyard is located right on the Russian River near Guerneville and has the same Yolo Sandy Silt Loam soil as found in many of the very best vineyards along Westside Road. Originally planted to Rome apples, a late-ripening variety, the property has proven itself an exceptional location for growing Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

### HARVEST 2022

The 2022 growing season experienced epic drought conditions, with the first half of the calendar year being one of the driest on record. Most of the rainfall came in November and December, saturating the soil, and setting the stage for the early part of the year. With a full soil moisture profile and moderate temperatures in the early spring, bud break started around historical average. Many frost nights ensued, which impacted early season growth and slowed down shoot elongation, creating some unevenness. The cool period in and around flowering further prolonged the flowering cycle and created a wide degree of variability. The unsettled weather in general ranged from cool temperatures to occasional rain showers to a freak hailstorm in early May. The remainder of the season was thankfully moderate, and harvest started on historical average in early August. The key to success in 2022 was the selective thinning of shoots and fruit to reduce the variation, tightening the window of ripening. Due to the complexities of the growing season, the wines show excellent structure and verve, with typical site specificity, and all in all a terrific vintage with aging potential.

### TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 28% new, 24% 1yr., 24% 2 yr., 24% 3+ yr.

Barrel Aged: 14months

pH: 3.50

TA: 0.61g/100mL

Alc: 14.1%

Released 2024

\$68

