



# FLORA SPRINGS



## WINEMAKER NOTES

Flora Springs has been making Napa Valley Chardonnay for over 35 years, with a legacy that began when our 1979 vintage was awarded a gold medal at the prestigious Los Angeles County Fair. A few years later, James Laube of Wine Spectator selected Flora Springs as one of the "First Growth" producers of Chardonnay in his book California's Great Chardonnays. Our 2015 Napa Valley Chardonnay relies primarily on fruit from our Crossroads Vineyard in Napa Valley's Oakville AVA, a mid-valley region with warm days and cool evenings that produce generously-fruited, richly-textured Chardonnay. A small portion of grapes also came from the cool, rolling hills of Carneros, adding bright acidity and fresh citrus flavor. The wine was fermented in stainless steel and aged in small oak barrels, with bi-weekly lees stirring and 18% malolactic fermentation. The result is a Chardonnay driven by tropical fruit flavors of pineapple and guava with elements of stone fruit and a zesty lemon streak. Fleshy and mouth filling, the wine's forward fruit is supplemented with classic oak characteristics of butter, vanilla bean and caramel. A round, creamy texture defines the palate, yet the finish is crisp and balanced.

## ALL THE FACTS

**Appellation:** *Napa Valley*

**Varietal:** *100% Chardonnay*

**Cases Produced:** *2000*

**Aging:** *7 months in seasoned oak barrels*

**Suggested Retail Price:** *\$25*

**Enjoyability:** *Enjoy Now!*

## ON THE VINE

The 2015 vintage in Napa Valley will be remembered for high quality but low yields. The growing season began with warm temperatures in late winter and early spring resulting in an early bud break. In May, colder temperatures during bloom caused fruit set to be uneven, yielding a much smaller crop compared to earlier vintages. Winemakers and vineyard managers worked closely together as the season progressed to ensure grapes ripened uniformly. The harvest, which was in full swing by mid-August, was one of the earliest on record in Napa Valley, and most vintners completed picking by mid-October. Although the continuing drought was a concern around California, Napa Valley received 75% of its annual rainfall average in 2015 making it less worrisome for Napa vintners.