

VARIETALS: 100% Chardonnay NEW OAK: 44% new French oak (François Frères, Dargaud & Jaegle, Cadus)

OLIVET LANE CHARDONNAY 2022

Russian River Valley AVA, California

OVERVIEW

Merry Edwards Winery was founded in 1997 and produces terroir-driven, single-vineyard wines from 80 acres of estate vineyards in the Russian River Valley. The winery is known for crafting Pinot Noirs of immense depth, elegant structure and exceptional longevity as well as its aromatic, barrel-aged Russian River Valley Sauvignon Blanc, which is among the most sought after made in California. A single-vineyard Chardonnay and Late Harvest Sauvignon Blanc round out the portfolio.

The Olivet Lane Vineyard, planted in 1975, is considered to be a Russian River Valley gem that still consistently produces stellar wines. After many years of working in the vineyards with her father, Robert, second-generation Alexia Pellegrini is now at the helm, taking great care to ensure that quality fruit production will continue into the future.

WINEMAKING

Grapes for this bottling were harvested on Sept. 17, 2022. The Chardonnay was handpicked and hand sorted in the field and at the winery. Berries were 100% whole-cluster pressed and 100% barrel fermented. After fermentation finished, the wine was aged sur lie nine months in 44% new French oak barrels. Bottling was done on Aug. 2, 2023.

92POINT/
VINOUS

The 2022 Chardonnay Olivet Lane Vineyard is pretty, open-knit and seductive. Baked apple, apricot, lemon confit, marzipan and a kiss of French oak all run through this expressive, inviting Chardonnay. All the elements are so well balanced.

91 POINTS Wine Spectator Succulent flavors of Meyer lemon, peach preserves, grilled pineapple and apple pastry are supple and intense on a smooth frame, with hints of butter-scotch, cardamom and vanilla crème. A fresh thread of acidity leaves a lasting impression. Drink now.

