

PETER PAUL

— WINES —

2014 Chardonnay Russian River Valley Bacigalupi Vineyard

Sourced from one of the most famous vineyards in the Russian River Valley, our Bacigalupi Vineyard designate will not disappoint. In 1976, Bacigalupi Chardonnay grapes were part of the blend that won the famous “Paris Tasting” that trounced the French and sent them back to the wine drawing board. The vineyard continues to deliver extraordinary quality commensurate with its renowned terroir.

In the harvest of 2014 Pinot Noir and Chardonnay emerged in early September from our Russian River Valley vineyards. The grapes tasted so good right off the vine that it was hard not to eat too many. The Pinot has just the right amount of ripe, red fruit flavor balanced by perfect acidity. Our Chardonnay, sourced exclusively from the famous Bacigalupi Vineyard, is also showing the vintage pedigree. It’s intoxicating to smell the aromas of fresh, young wine as we enter the winery each day. Cabernet Sauvignon always comes in after the Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. We had just a little less than a month to recover from the earthquake before the Cabernet was ripe.

About This Wine: Located in the Middle Reach of the Russian River Appellation, Bacigalupi Vineyard is situated on a bench adjacent to the river’s flow. We source our grapes from the vineyard’s Bloom Ranch block, planted in 1976. This “sister ranch” was inspired, in part, by the Paris Tasting results. It’s now an old vine parcel with an “old school” California canopy that allows the fruit to ripen to full physiological maturity without California sunburn. Traditional old world techniques, such as native yeast fermentation, batonnage and extended lees aging yield a rich, complex wine. The wine is fermented and aged only in Latour barrels—all French oak—and then bottled unfiltered. It’s true what they say about terroir. Great vineyards do, indeed, produce the greatest wines.

Tasting Notes: Aromas of white stone fruit and apple pie are complemented by nuances of vanilla bean and almond shell. On the entry a lush texture of citrus and candied apple fans out across the mid-palate, enhanced by a distinct minerality framing the lengthy finish. This famous vineyard delivers exceptional consistency from vintage to vintage expressing its pedigree as one of California’s finest.

Technical Data:

Varietal: 100% Chardonnay

Clones: Old Wente

Oak: 100% French Oak, 45% new for 16 months

Cases Produced: 437

Appellation: Russian River Valley