



2018 RED SHOULDER RANCH® CHARDONNAY

NAPA VALLEY • CARNEROS

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary Vintage of Red Shoulder Ranch Chardonnay

<i>Release Date</i>	March 1, 2020
<i>Vineyard Location</i>	Shafer's Red Shoulder Ranch estate vineyard in Carneros
<i>The 2018 Growing Season</i>	A lengthy, cool, steady summer created ideal conditions for the fruit to hang on the vine a long time developing bright color, alluring flavors, and enticing aromas.
<i>Varietal Composition</i>	100% Chardonnay
<i>Brix at Harvest</i>	22.8° - 25.0°
<i>Fermentation</i>	Whole-cluster pressed and fermented with wild yeast in individual barrels (75% oak, 25% stainless steel); 0% malolactic fermentation
<i>Cooperage</i>	14 months in 75% new French oak barrels (Allier, Vosges) and 25% in stainless steel barrels
<i>Alcohol</i>	14.9%



RED SHOULDER RANCH CHARDONNAY

Shafer's single-vineyard Carneros-grown Chardonnay is produced from small-clustered clones of grapes selected for their low yields and distinctive flavors. Fermentation takes place within individual oak and stainless steel barrels using native yeasts. The wine matures on the lees for 14 months and since it undergoes no malolactic fermentation this Chardonnay retains a lively natural acidity. The vineyard is named for its Red-shouldered Hawks and other birds of prey, who play an important role in Shafer's sustainable farming practices.

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

"This 25th vintage of our Chardonnay offers abundant, exotic aromas and flavors of citrus blossom, apricot, pineapple, grapefruit zest, and honeydew melon all held together with seamless structure, elegant balance, and energy that comes from pure, clean acidity." — ELIAS FERNANDEZ

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

"This is a perennially impressive wine ..." — VIRGINIE BOONE, WINE ENTHUSIAST

SHAFER VINEYARDS

Shafer Vineyards is a 30,000-case family owned winery in Napa Valley's Stags Leap District. The Shafers own and farm 200 acres of estate vineyards, sources for Shafer's Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Malbec, Merlot, Syrah, and Petite Sirah.