



### **A HISTORIC VINEYARD...**

The Old Block of the Haynes Vineyard, located in a cool pocket of the southeastern Napa Valley, is a part of California winemaking history. Among the vines in the Old Block of Haynes Vineyard Chardonnay, Ken found through examining and tasting the grapes that a handful of these vines showed “musque” characteristics. A selection of these specific vines led to our Musque Chardonnay.

### **ABOUT THE VINTAGE...**

Small but intense, the 2015 vintage did not give us a lot of fruit to work with but what we received yielded outstanding wines. The drought continued and its effects were only exacerbated by unseasonable weather – warm in the winter on into spring resulted in early bud break, yet cold weather during flowering resulted in an uneven fruit set, which ultimately meant smaller crops. Once summer arrived, it brought warmth with it and led to another early harvesting vintage. Attention to detail in the vineyard meant that the grapes that made it to harvest were high quality . . . giving us wines with exciting flavors and a lot of personality!

### **ABOUT THE WINE...**

Our Musque Chardonnay bottling is the culmination of a multi-year selection process at the Haynes Vineyard in Coombsville. Grapes were tasted and selected on a vine-by-vine basis evaluating for the rare “musque” character. The cuttings were then taken and planted to two rows in another section of the vineyard, which yield just a couple barrels each vintage. The vines are all varietal Chardonnay, but possess the unique clonal traits lending the floral “terpene” aromatics reminiscent of varieties like Muscat, Viognier or Gewurtztraminer - though certainly in more subtle fashion. This wine was made much in the same way as our other Chardonnays, fermented entirely in French cooperage. Bottling was done after a total of 9 months in barrel. 52 cases produced.

### **TASTING NOTES...**

Pure nose candy! Breathe in the notes of honeyed orange blossom that open into tropical undertones of lychee nut. Over the course of the year, this wine will continue to develop its heady mixture of fruit and floral. The wine welcomes with vibrant, lifted aromatics while the bright palate reflects those notes, making this a unique Chardonnay experience. The lush, opulent texture of this wine completes to make it a rare treat that delights with a lingering honeysuckle finish. Lovely to enjoy now, it does not require time or pairing to deliver pure pleasure to the senses.

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