

little boot



Little Boat Russian River Chardonnay 2023

In the signature style of José Ignacio Cuenca, this Chardonnay is elegant, complex, and beautifully balanced. Bright citrus notes ripple across the palate, leading to a clean, lively finish. While approachable now, the wine also shows great aging potential, supported by a refined mineral backbone.

Sourced from two distinct sub-appellations of the Russian River Valley: Windsor Oaks Vineyard in the warmer Chalk Hill region (the historic Balverne Estate, once home to a Prohibition-era speakeasy), and Square Peg Estate Vineyard in the cooler Green Valley near Occidental on the Sonoma Coast—just miles from the Pacific Ocean. Both sites have been long-time vineyard partners for winemaker William Knuttel, who has worked with them for over 25 years.

Classic Burgundian techniques were employed: whole-cluster pressing, barrel fermentation in 100% French oak, weekly bâtonnage during sur lie aging, and full malolactic fermentation. The final blend was a barrel selection, primarily from Francois Frères and Damy cooperages, with 30% new oak.

No fining was applied. Alcohol 13.9%, pH 3.62, T.A. 5.9 g/L.

Produced and bottled at William Knuttel's winery in Sonoma, California.

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