

# GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

NAPA VALLEY



## 2014 CHARDONNAY

ESTATE GROWN • NAPA VALLEY

**WINEMAKER'S NOTES:** This vintage was marked by a continuation of drought, producing extremely small berries with concentrated flavors. The result is a complex Chardonnay with wonderful precision, tension and finesse.

**VINTAGE:** For the third year in a row Napa Valley experienced an exceptional vintage, aided by the drought conditions. Budbreak came slightly early, and the modest temperatures through the growing season helped preserve moisture. July's relatively low temperatures coupled with high relative humidity slowed down sugar accumulation to achieve perfect ripeness with lower alcohol. Harvest started and ended about two weeks earlier than normal, producing superb quality.

**VINEYARD:** Our Chardonnay thrives in our American Canyon and Carneros vineyards in the southern tip of Napa Valley, near San Pablo Bay, which spills into the San Francisco Bay. The cool maritime breezes and morning fog allow the grapes to slowly ripen to develop complex flavors while maintaining a pleasing natural acidity that is impossible to achieve in warmer areas. We farm all of our vineyards naturally, without artificial pesticides or herbicides, and they are certified organic.

**THE WINE:** Miljenko "Mike" Grgich has been called "The King of Chardonnay" since the winery began in 1977, and you can taste why in this classically-styled wine. We did not allow the Chardonnay to undergo malolactic fermentation, preserving its natural acidity. The wine displays ripe peach, mango and tropical flavors, with a note of minerality. Enjoy with fresh seafood, roasted chicken, grilled pork, and creamy cheeses.

Alcohol..... 14.1% by volume  
Fermentation...indigenous yeast  
Harvest date.... Aug. 19 - Sept. 10, 2014  
Sugar ..... 23.1° Brix (*average*)  
Bottling date.... July 30 - Aug. 13, 2015  
Release date.... October 2017  
Total acid ..... 6.7 g/L  
pH ..... 3.30  
Time in oak..... Fermented and aged  
                            10 months  
Type of oak..... French oak:  
                            60% neutral barrels  
                            40% new barrels  
Production..... 23,692 cases (12/750 ml.)  
Blend ..... 100% Chardonnay