



## 2014 RED SHOULDER RANCH® CHARDONNAY

NAPA VALLEY • CARNEROS

Release Date	March 1, 2016
Vineyard Location	Shafer's Red Shoulder Ranch in Carneros
The 2014 Growing Season	This was the third in a string of warm, sun-soaked vintages from spring through early autumn. The consistency of daytime heat and evening coolness created a model growing season in which we harvested fruit with abundant color and concentration, along with enticing, rich aromatics.
Varietal Composition	100% Chardonnay
Brix at Harvest	22.8° – 25.0°
Fermentation	Whole-cluster pressed and fermented with wild yeast in individual barrels; (75% oak, 25% stainless steel); 0% malolactic fermentation
Cooperage	14 months in 75% new French oak barrels (Allier, Vosges) and 25% in stainless steel barrels
Alcohol	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 natural farming practices.

### WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

*"The picture-perfect 2014 vintage has produced a Chardonnay with elegant aromas and flavors of melon, honeysuckle, apricot, pineapple, citrus zest, and flint. This abundance of exotic fruit is completed with bright acidity, seamless balance, and a long, mouth-coating finish."*

— ELIAS FERNANDEZ

### WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

*"Energy and focus the two elements that stand out in Shafer's 2014 Chardonnay Red Shoulder Ranch. Lemon peel, white pepper and floral notes are some of the signatures ... another jewel of a wine from Shafer."*

— ANTONIO GALLONI, VINOUS

### SHAFER VINEYARDS

Shafer Vineyards is a 30,000-case winery in Napa Valley's Stags Leap District managed by the father and son team of John and Doug Shafer. The Shafers own and farm 200 acres of vineyards, sources for Shafer's Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Merlot, and Syrah.