

Hunter  
Wine Cellars



Chasseur

2009 CHARDONNAY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY



**Winemaker:** William Hunter  
**Production:** 174 cases  
**Alcohol:** 15.8%

#### The Vintage:

The growing season for 2009 was unusual in that the fruit had an excessive amount of small berries due to early shatter. West county fruit has a reputation for this but '09 showed by far more than usual which created great concentration and depth. The weather during the growing season up to version was cool and even, almost ideal. In late August/early September we got our typical heat spike actually two within three weeks. But once again our late ripening vineyards were able to get past this with no problems. Mid September saw some light rain, which caused no issues but mid October a huge storm rolled in and we scrambled to get everything in. However, this was of no consequence since everything was ripe by this time. Resulting wines are very similar in style and quality to 2007 but with a little more concentration.

#### Winemaker's Notes:

There is a sophisticated harmony to the aromas of this rich yet stylish bottling, as scents of sweet apples, honeysuckle, pear and toasted coconut happily marry others of vanilla cream custard and nutmeg. The classy note carries through to the texture as well, as apple, pear, white peach, honey and vanilla wafer flavors come through as both zesty and light on the palate despite the fruits grand year ripeness. Quiet refreshment and a delicate feel remain strong points in the wines long, polished finish as well. More than the sum of its parts, this is a beautiful example of what balance is all about. It should grow even more appealing over the next twelve to eighteen months.

#### Technical Notes:

Bottled: March 10, 2011  
Yield: 2.5 to 3.5 tons/acre  
Total Acidity: 6.2 g/L  
pH: 3.62  
Alcohol: 15-8%

#### Grape Source:

Lorenzo Vineyard – Quad block  
Rued Vineyard

#### Aging:

16 months in 60 gallon French oak barrels: 50% new; 50% from Tonnellerie Sirugue and 50% from Francois Freres

#### Harvest:

September 28<sup>th</sup> through October 20<sup>th</sup>

#### Release Date:

May 10, 2011

#### Malolactic Fermentation:

100%

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