

Hunter  
Wine Cellars



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2006 CHARDONNAY

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SONOMA COAST

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**Winemaker:** William Hunter  
**Production:** 575 Cases  
**Alcohol:** 14.1%

#### **The Vintage:**

A challenging vintage the 2006 set a bumper crop. Rain in the spring set the stage for microbial problems in the fall. Excessive heat in the early summer created berry damage. Copious fruit thinning at veraison and serious sorting especially by the growers in the field brought in fruit to be proud of. Finally, excessive saignee or bleeding of juice from the must at the fermenter in the winery led to a higher solid to juice ratio creating wines with excellent color and flavor concentration

#### **Winemaker's Notes:**

This wine offers a dense and sophisticated perfume, as focused white peach, citron and Fuji apple scents find a comfortable harmony with its almost equally expressive vanilla cream wafer, nutmeg, bees wax and mineral notes. The wine's concentration is even more obvious on the mid-palate, where the richness of texture is almost sinewy and the firm lemon-citrus notes cut in for balance. The finish is mouth-cleansing dry, yet the flavors shift toward a more gentle stance, as tarte tatin and toasted hazelnut join more prettified lemon and apple flavors at the end. Delicious now and decidedly food-friendly, it will evolve positively for another few years.

#### **Technical Notes**

Bottled: April 12, 2008  
Yield: 2.3 ton/acre average  
Total Acidity: 6.9 g/L  
pH: 3.52  
Alcohol: 14.1%  
Unfined, unfiltered

#### **Aging**

Eighteen months in 60 gallon  
French oak barrels: 50% new from  
Tonnellerie Sirugue and Francoise  
Frere

#### **Release Date**

May 15, 2008

#### **Grape Source**

Twin Hill Ranch  
*Clones: Robert Young*  
Sangiacomo  
*Clones: Old Wente*  
Durell  
*Clone: Hyde, Old Wente*

#### **Harvest**

October 16th, 18th and 19th 24.8  
degree brix average

#### **Malolactic Fermentation**

100%

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