



Chasseur

Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar Reviews

2007 Chasseur Chardonnay Lorenzo Vineyard Russian River Valley - 94

Pale yellow. Intense iodine and mineral scents add urgency to ripe pear and apple on the nose, with a sexy floral note building in the glass. Stains the palate with deep, powerful citrus and orchard fruit flavors and shows a strong iodine quality. This is about minerality as much as fruit. The finish leaves nervy mineral and lemon/lime notes behind, eventually. I couldn't get this off my palate.

2007 Chasseur Chardonnay Durell Vineyard Sonoma Valley - 93

Light greenish-yellow. The expansive, strongly scented nose offers an array of citrus and orchard fruits, with exotic floral and mineral qualities gaining strength with air. Shows fatter melon and papaya on the palate, with a zestier citrus quality emerging with air. A suave honeysuckle note lingers on the long, sappy finish. As alluring as this is today, the strong mineral character bodes well for cellaring.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Sexton Russian River Valley - 93

Dark red. Flamboyant black raspberry, incense and potpourri on the nose. Compellingly sweet and incisive, offering fresh red and dark berry flavors, velvety texture and strong back-end minerality. A deeper note of cola arrives on the finish, which is broad, focused and very long.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Joyce Sonoma Coast - 93

Bright red. Exotic aromas of red berry preserves, spicecake, minerals and rose; smells like a high-end Vosne. Fleshy and seductively smooth in texture, with deep, gently sweet red and dark berry flavors and a late note of candied flowers. The spicy quality returns on the finish, which is strikingly pure and very long.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Blank Russian River Valley - 93

Full, bright red. Black raspberry, patchouli and cola on the nose. A sexy floral quality comes up with air and carries onto the palate, complicating the sweet dark berry and floral flavors. Becomes richer with air but maintains energy, finishing with succulent red berry preserve and floral notes and outstanding persistence. This is delicious right now.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Holder Russian River Valley - 93

Bright red. Mineral-driven red berry and cherry aromas are complicated by fresh rose and Asian spices. Nervy red fruit flavors are strikingly pure and focused, with an exotic candied floral quality gaining power with air. Very sexy wine, with excellent finishing lift and sappy persistence.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Sylvia's Russian River Valley - 92(+?)

Vivid red. Initially restrained nose opens quickly to display lively strawberry, raspberry and rhubarb aromas. Tight, finely etched red fruit flavors are alluringly sweet and pure, with a snap

of minerals adding urgency. Impressively energetic pinot with excellent finishing clarity and lingering spiciness. Decant this one.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Freestone Station Russian River Valley - 92(+?)

Bright red. Youthfully restrained aromas of redcurrant and wild strawberry, with a strong mineral underpinning. Racy and finely etched, with lively red berry flavors and a bite of bitter cherry skin. The mineral quality builds with air and carries through the long, nervy finish. This will benefit from patience.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast - 92

Bright red. Intensely perfumed bouquet of red berries, Asian spices, rose and minerals. Deeply concentrated raspberry and cherry flavors are braced by tangy minerals and given an exotic touch by a note of candied flowers. Becomes spicier and more mineral-driven on the finish, which is strikingly precise and very persistent.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Umino Russian River Valley - 92

Deep red. Strawberry, raspberry and spicecake scents are impressively pure and expansive. Open-knit red berry flavors display liqueur-like depth and are framed by silky tannins. Juicy and focused on the finish, which repeats the sweet red fruit notes and clings tenaciously.

2007 Chasseur Chardonnay Russian River Valley - 91

Light, bright yellow. Very fresh aromas of lime, lemongrass and salty minerals. Tangy and pure, offering vivid citrus and green apple flavors with excellent back-end cut and thrust. Turns spicier on the finish, which strongly echoes the mineral and lime notes. This will reward patience.

2007 Chasseur Pinot Noir Russian River Valley - 91

Vivid red. Highly expressive aromas of strawberry, raspberry, potpourri and Asian spices. Racy and pure, offering sweet red berry and candied rose flavors, with fine-grained tannins adding support. Gains power with air and finishes with very persistent red fruit notes. This is already delicious but balanced to age.

2007 Chasseur Chardonnay Sonoma County - 90

Bright yellow. Intensely perfumed bouquet of Meyer lemon, apple, smoky minerals and white pepper. Lively orange zest and pear flavors are braced by a refreshingly bitter citrus pith quality. Nervier than the RRV, with very good finishing clarity and cut.

2006 Chasseur Chardonnay Lorenzo Russian River Valley – 93

Light yellow. Flamboyantly perfumed aromas of stone fruits, spicy oak, minerals and cured meat, with a strong floral undercurrent. Stains the palate with deep citrus and orchard fruit flavors, picking up exotic candied floral and sweet butter qualities with air. Impressively powerful chardonnay with excellent finishing clarity and mineral cut.

2006 Chasseur Pinot Noir Blank Russian River Valley – 92

Deep red with a bright rim. Explosively perfumed aromas of black raspberry, incense and brown spices, with a sexy floral undertone. Deep, gently chewy dark berry flavors are surprisingly lithe, emphasizing clarity over sheer extract and taking a turn to red fruits with air. Manages to be both powerful and graceful, with excellent finishing cut and persistence.

2006 Chasseur Chardonnay Durell Vineyard Sonoma Valley – 91

Light gold. Highly pungent aromas of yellow plum, apple, minerals and dried flowers. Fleshy in texture and very rich, with deep orchard fruit and mango flavors underscored by smoky minerals. The mineral and floral notes linger on the long, sappy finish. Serve this with a rich shellfish dish.

2006 Chasseur Pinot Noir Umino Russian River Valley – 91

Deep red. Dark berries and cherry on the nose, with a blood orange quality adding vibrancy. Supple red and dark berry liqueur flavors coat the palate, with velvety tannins providing shape. The finish is alluringly sweet and very persistent. This rich, fleshy pinot would stand up to a grilled steak or strong cheeses.

2006 Chasseur Pinot Noir Freestone Station Russian River Valley – 90(+?)

Dark red. Youthfully brooding aromas of cherry and dark berries. Densely packed blackberry and bitter cherry flavors are slow to unfold, eventually offering spicier red fruit qualities and good spicy cut. The finish leaves chewy dark fruit notes behind and packs a solid punch. This needs decanting, or bottle aging.

2006 Chasseur Pinot Noir Russian River Valley – 90

Bright red. Deeper than the SonomaCoast on the nose, displaying black raspberry and cherry scents, along with anise and pungent herbs. Rich red and dark berry flavors coat the palate and are framed by supple tannins. The cherry and herb notes repeat on the long, juicy finish.

2006 Chasseur Chardonnay Russian River Valley – 90

Light yellow. Lemon, pink grapefruit and brown spice aromas are pungent and focused. Sweeter and fuller in the mouth than the nose suggests, offering deep citrus and pear flavors and a subtle note of sweet butter. The citrus quality repeats on the long, spicy finish. This is drinking well now but also has the energy to reward patience.

2006 Chasseur Chardonnay Sangiacomo Green Acres Hill Sonoma Coast – 90

Bright yellow. Floral honey, poached pear and peach on the nose, with baking spices and minerals adding vivacity. Vibrant tangerine and pear in the mouth, lifted by zesty minerality. The honey note returns on the finish, which is broad, gently sweet and long. This is drinking well right now.

Chasseur Chardonnay Sangiacomo Green Acres Hill Sonoma Coast 2005 - 93

Medium gold. Exotically perfumed bouquet of smoky pear, butterscotch, toasty lees and baking spices; reminded me a Meursault from Comtes Lafon. Pliant, deep orchard fruit and melon flavors take on a chewy texture with air. This impressive chardonnay really stains the palate, finishing with outstanding lift and persistence.

Chasseur Chardonnay Lorenzo Russian River Valley 2005 - 92(+?)

Light gold. Meyer lemon, pear and iodine aromas offer striking clarity, turning smoky with air. Tightly wound citrus and orchard fruit flavors gain flesh and depth with aeration, picking up honey and sweet butter qualities. Impressively balanced, complex and spicy, with great finishing lift and thrust. I'd bet on this improving for at least the next five years.

Chasseur Chardonnay Durell Sonoma Valley 2005 - 93

Bright gold with green highlights. Intense, floral-accented pear skin and cherry pit aromas are complicated by iodine, dusty minerals and cured meat. Extremely complex on the palate,

offering a wild array of dried fruit, mineral and herb flavors, a chewy texture and remarkable energy. Leaves a strong note of gingerbread on the long, sappy finish. This is all Hyde clone, according to Hunter.