

Hunter
Wine Cellars



Chasseur

2009 CHARDONNAY

SONOMA COUNTY



Winemaker: William Hunter
Production: 175 cases
Alcohol: 15.0%

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:

This is a big, juicy Chardonnay, with good concentration to its aromas and flavors and lots of body. The nose is a youthfully coiled mix of Bosc pear, honeysuckle and white peach tied to some rich preserved lemon, vanilla custard and nutmeg. It proves as rich as expected on the palate, with lots of white peach, nutmeggy custard, baked apple and pear flavors which continue through a long, well-stuffed finish. This is a flavor-packed wine that deserves service with full-flavored entrees. It should show ever-more depth and polish over the next year.

Technical Notes:

Bottled: March 10, 2011
Yield: 2.5 to 3.5 tons/acre
Total Acidity: 6.2 g/L
pH: 3.62
Alcohol: 15-0%

Grape Source:

Durell
Sangiacomo
Rued

Aging:

16 months in 60 gallon French oak barrels: 40% new; 50% from Tonnellerie Sirugue and 50% from Francois Freres

Harvest:

September 28th through October 20th

Release Date:

May 10, 2011

Malolactic Fermentation:

100%

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