

Hunter  
Wine Cellars



Chasseur

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## 2011 CHARDONNAY

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### Durell

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**Winemaker:** William Hunter  
**Production:** 141 cases  
**Alcohol:** 14.1%

#### **The Vintage:**

The mild spring of 2011 started the growing season off to a good start however, set was such that the potential yield would be small, very small. The subsequent summer was mild, an indicator for an even growing season. A warm fall with absolutely wonderful early berry flavors teased with possibilities of the best vintage since the incredible 1974. However, rain in late September postponed harvest. Some of our vineyards were ready for harvest, so we went ahead and harvested those, but many were not so waiting seemed to be the better part of valor. Many other wineries picked unripe fruit before the rain but we feel that was a mistake. Due to the extra effort our growers put into each and every vineyard at crucial times like these afforded us the luxury of waiting and we're happy we did. Those early flavors we liked became even more evident when we finally did harvest.

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

Concentrated and densely packed, the nose of this classic Chardonnay expands significantly with airing to reveal aromas of honey, peach, spiced apple, roasted grain, toasted coconut and minerals. The texture proves as youthfully firm as it is rich, and the lingering impression is of deep, focused fruit and lip-smacking, lemony zest. It never betrays any alcoholic heat either, and a bit of age should turn this into a graceful, if clearly Grand Opera-style, Chardonnay.

#### **Technical Notes:**

Bottled: April 2, 2013  
Yield: 1.27 tons/acre  
Total Acidity: 6.4 g/L  
pH: 3.55  
Alcohol: 14.1%

#### **Grape Source:**

Sonoma Coast  
Durell 'Sand Hill' Vineyard  
Clone: 'old Wente' Hyde selection

#### **Aging:**

Sixteen months in 60 gallon  
French oak barrels: 67% new;  
50% from Tonnellerie Sirugue  
and 50% from Francois Freres

#### **Harvest:**

October 15<sup>th</sup> at 24.1 degree Brix

#### **Malolactic Fermentation:**

100%

#### **Release Date:**

September 1, 2013

#### **Bottling:**

Unfined, unfiltered

**Hunter Wine Cellars, LLC**  
P.O. Box 561, Sebastopol, CA 95472  
Phone: (707) 829-1941  
[www.chasseurwines.com](http://www.chasseurwines.com)