



WHEELHOUSE
WINE CELLARS

W I N E N O T E S

2 0 1 1

S O N O M A C O U N T Y

C H A R D O N N A Y

• G R A P E S O U R C I N G •

The majority of grapes for this wine were sourced from California's Sonoma County, a growing area that has emerged as one of the world's leading growing regions for Chardonnay. Close to the sea, the region's summer warmth is moderated by fog and other cooling maritime influences, creating an ideal climate for Chardonnay grapes. Grapes from Sonoma County's cool climate sub-appellations including Russian River Valley and Sonoma Coast have become known for producing superb, classically structured Chardonnay.

Grape Sourcing: 90% Sonoma County (46% Russian River Valley, 34% Sonoma Mountain, 10% Sonoma Coast); 10% California

• V I N T A G E •

The 2011 growing season was challenging for growers and the overall yield was down about 17% for Sonoma County. An April frost caused shatter in some areas. The cooler than normal weather extended the growing season, with most of the region's grapes harvested before the October rains, resulting in grapes with excellent flavor development and maturity. Wines from 2011 tend to display ripe fruit aromas and flavors, richness and balanced acidity.

Technical Information: 0.61 TA, 3.65 PH, 14% alcohol

• W I N E M A K I N G •

After a gentle pressing, the grapes were cold settled and racked before fermentation. A majority of the blend was barrel fermented and aged with a combination of natural yeasts. After fermentation, the wine went through sur lies and partial malolactic fermentation, increasing the silky texture and lengthy finish in the wine.

Varietal blend: 100% Chardonnay

Our Chardonnay is a wine of balanced richness with hints of vanilla and Gravenstein apple on the nose, carrying through to the palate with an elegant, silky finish. This Chardonnay is delicious on its own, or try pairing it with grilled wild Alaskan salmon with braised fennel with baby potatoes.