

PAUL HOBBS

2010 CHARDONNAY ULISES VALDEZ VINEYARD RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Owner/Mgr: Ulises Valdez
- Appellation: Russian River Valley
- Clonal Selection: Wente
- Vine Age: Planted in 2002
- Site: Southeast exposure; sandy-loam, Goldridge soil
- Yield: 3.5 tons/acre

HARVEST

- Harvest Date: October 1
- Harvest Brix: 24.5°
- Growing Season: 2010 began with a wet winter and spring across Sonoma County. Summer was cool, though as harvest approached temperatures rose. Our pinot noir and chardonnay ripened fully and evenly, allowing sugars and acid to develop in balance. The wines from 2010 are bright, expressive and elegant.

WINEMAKING

- Hand-harvested grapes
- Whole cluster, direct to press, cold
- Barrel-fermented with indigenous yeasts; 5 months to completion
- Concurrent, spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrels
- Aged 13 months in small French oak barrels; 71% new
- Aged *sur lies*; biweekly *bâtonnage*
- Unblended, unfinned and unfiltered; bottled January 2012

NOTES

- Characteristically bold, yet silky and refined, this deep golden chardonnay offers scents of brioche, jasmine and exotic vanilla. A richly layered palate bursts with juniper berry, tangerine, custard, Fuji apple, and white flowers. The mid-palate is reminiscent of buttery apple pie. The bright bouquet of flavors persists over a silky, lingering creamy finish. Alcohol 14.3%