

PAUL HOBBS

2011 CHARDONNAY EDWARD JAMES ESTATE RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Owner/Mgr: Paul Hobbs Winery
- Appellation: Russian River Valley
- Clonal Selection: Wente
- Planted: 2007
- Site: Southern and western exposures; sandy-loam, Goldridge soil
- Yield: 3.6 tons/acre

HARVEST

- Harvest Date: September 28
- Harvest Brix: 24.0°
- Growing Season: 2011 began with a rainy winter and spring across Sonoma and Napa Counties. Summer was cooler than average but as harvest approached temperatures rose. Our chardonnay ripened fully and evenly, allowing sugars and acid to develop in balance. The wines from 2011 are bright, expressive and faceted.

WINEMAKING

- Hand-harvested grapes
- Whole cluster, direct to press, cold
- Barrel-fermented with indigenous yeasts; 5 months to completion
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrels
- Aged 15 months in French oak barrels; 67% new
- Aged *sur lies*; biweekly *bâtonnage*
- Unfined and unfiltered; bottled January 2013

NOTES

- Edward James Estate, named for Paul's great-grandfather, is planted to chardonnay from heritage grape clones, Bato and Wente. While the vines on this estate are only in their fifth leaf, the wine is refined and balanced. Glistening light straw in color, it is seductively aromatic with stone fruit and limestone. Supple and lush, the palate is enrobed in layers of crème brûlée, banana and yeasty brioche, all complimented by a touch of salinity. This concentrated weave of flavors persists over a long, caressing mineral finish. Alcohol 14.3%