



PATZ & HALL

2007 DUTTON RANCH - RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

Vineyard Character: This vineyard yields fragrant, tropical aromatics underscored by a crisp mineral character. Look for fresh tastes of Gravenstein apple and exotic fruit flavors of passion fruit and guava. Produced from some of the oldest plantings of Chardonnay in western Sonoma County, this wine is predominantly a blend of California heritage clones and selections—Robert Young, Rued, Hyde-Wente, UC Davis clone 4 and Spring Mountain. Mostly dry-farmed, the vines struggle to produce small but intensely concentrated berries, making for great depth of flavor and texture.

Tasting Notes: With perfect weather and significantly smaller crops than the previous vintage, 2007 was a standout year for Chardonnay, and the 2007 DUTTON RANCH - Russian River Valley Chardonnay is no exception. Seamlessly combining both high tone and bass notes, this wine begins with lovely tropical aromas of mango and pineapple accented by subtle Muscat and white flower notes. On the palate, the wine is flowing and gracious, echoing the tropical fruit of the nose and combining it with layers of nut crust, graham cracker and crème brûlée. Though bone dry, it hints at sweetness, and concludes with an appealingly full and broad-textured finish.

Winemaking:

- 100% Chardonnay fruit
- Whole cluster pressed
- Multi-yeast fermentations (wild & cultured)
- Sur lie* aged with weekly stirring
- 100% malo-lactic fermentation in barrel
- 37% new Burgundian French oak barrels

Release Date: February 2009

Retail Price per 750 ml: \$39.00

THE PATZ & HALL FAMILY OF WINEGROWERS

Gail, Steve and Joe Dutton –Dutton Ranch - Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

In 1969, while the nation looked to San Francisco during the Summer of Love, Warren Dutton planted some of the first Chardonnay vines in western Sonoma. Sons Steve and Joe Dutton, along with their mother Gail, carry on in Warren's footsteps with what is now one of Sonoma County's most successful vineyard operations. We are able to select from seven blocks of Chardonnay largely planted with California heirloom clones (Robert Young, Rued, Hyde-Wente and UC Davis clone 4) for the Dutton Ranch Chardonnay bottling.

James Hall
Winemaker