



2009 Unoaked Chardonnay

Philosophy

Many have come to know Sierra Vista as a producer of high quality red wines from this unique mountain viticultural setting. However Chardonnay grows well in our microclimates and was the first white grape we planted. Traditionally we have produced a barrel fermented Chardonnay but after a trip to Australia where we tried a number of unoaked Chardonnays, we thought we would experiment with our own. The Unoaked Chardonnay is cold fermented in a stainless tank to preserve all its fruity characteristics. We began producing the Loire style in 1999 and were the first California winery to label the bottling "Unoaked". This wine has been a wonderful tool to emphasize that our cool climate can produce excellent white wines.

Vineyard Source

The 2009 Unoaked Chardonnay is entirely from our estate vineyard, just in front of the winery as you look toward the Crystal range. This is the coolest microclimate on our property as evidenced by how the snow melts very slowly there when we have some. The vineyard was planted in 1982 on its own roots and produces excellent quality Chardonnay.

2009 Vintage

We had a normal spring with bud break at the usual time followed by a moderate summer. There was a late spring rain that allowed us to try a year of farming with almost no irrigation. The only vines we irrigated were the Roussanne so everything else was dry farmed. This allowed the grapes to ripen to maturity without developing high sugar and thus high alcohol. We started harvesting in the first week of September – which is slightly early

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

This unoaked Chardonnay has the intensity, complexity and roundness of a barrel aged Chardonnay. Crisp citrus and tropical fruit character is balanced by a round mouth feel and lingering finish. This wine is a great spring and summer wine as we head into the warmer weather. It complements many different dishes such as grilled chicken marinated with white wine, lemon juice, fresh herbs and garlic. Or try it with your favorite seafood dishes – I'm sure we will be enjoying it out on the deck this year.

John MacCready, Owner & Winemaker

Wine list description

2009 Chardonnay

Unoaked—El Dorado, Estate bottled Rich, full bodied and delicious.



Harvest Date	Sept 14
Sugar at Harvest	22.5 Brix
Bottling Date	December 2006
Release Date	January 2007
Cases Produced	750