

2009

CHARDONNAY

MT. HARLAN

Calera's Mt. Harlan Vineyards are located in the Gavilan Mountains 25 miles east of the Monterey Bay. The site was chosen for its limestone soils and ideal climate. At an average elevation of 2,200 feet it is among the highest and coolest vineyard sites in California.

Winemakers Notes

Our 2009 Mt Harlan Chardonnay entices with an alluring mineral, peach gelato bouquet and notes of gooseberry, honeysuckle, Bosc pear and golden apple. It is a statuesque wine; elegant, savory and velvety, with its gentle, creamy texture yet pronounced structure, hinting towards this vineyards proven, astounding aging potential, although admittedly it is wonderful to drink young as well.

<u>Vineyard Details</u> <u>Analysis</u>

Planted in 1984 and 1998 10.4 acres, 6 x 10 and 4.5 x 8 spacing South / Southwest exposure, gentle slope Limestone soils

Clone: Calera Selection Crop Yield: 1.65 tons/acre <u>Wine</u>

Total Acidity: 6.1 g/l Final pH: 3.51 Malolactic: 100% Alcohol: 13.9 % Cases Produced: 1.035

Vintage and Winemaking Detail

Another drought year in 2009 kept yields low in the Mt. Harlan Chardonnay Vineyards. The ideal moderate temperatures throughout the season gave us plenty of hang time to ripen the fruit with bright acids and intense fruit flavors.

The grapes were hand harvested and whole cluster pressed immediately upon arrival at the winery. The juice was racked by gravity to French oak barrels following overnight settling. Barrel fermentation with indigenous yeast was followed by a complete malolactic. Aged without racking in mostly François Freres barrels, 30% new, for ten months, the vineyard lots were combined prior to bottling and the wine was bottled with a very light filtration.