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## 2008 Chardonnay Russian River Valley

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### **The Vineyards:**

Cecil De Loach has been farming Russian River Valley Chardonnay for over 30 years and was among a small group of vintners that helped define this valley as a premier Chardonnay region. The coastal fog that covers our rolling vineyards allow the grapes to ripen slowly, and give the flavors time to develop.

### **The Winemaking:**

After crushing and de-stemming immediately to press, the Chardonnay juice is fermented in French oak barrels. While in barrel, the wine goes through a malolactic fermentation that naturally creates a light buttery flavor and smooth mouth feel. While on its lees the wine is hand stirred in barrel once a month, and topped twice a month for nine months. This process develops and additional complexity of flavors and aromas.

### **The Wine:**

Aromas of tropical fruits, and crisp Golden Delicious apple highlight our Chardonnay. Notes of butterscotch, vanilla, and honey balance these classic flavors. This beautiful, full-bodied Chardonnay has enough bright acidity to be served on any occasion.

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### **Technical Information:**

**Harvested:** September 3<sup>rd</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007    **Release Date:** Spring 2009

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**Alcohol %:** 14.2    **pH:** 3.31    **Total Acidity:** .71    **Residual Sugar:** .28%

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**Case Production:** 6,385    **Suggested Retail Price:** \$19

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Winemaker: Jason De Loach

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