



## 2009 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

**Appellation:** Russian River Valley

**Blend:** 100% Chardonnay

**Vineyard:** 73% Dutton Ranch Mill Station  
15% Balletto Vineyard  
10% Matchbook Vineyard  
2% JK Vineyard

**Alcohol:** 13.9%

**TA:** .62

**pH:** 3.66

**Residual Sugar:** .47

**Production:** 1,093 cases

### Wine Description

The wine style is based on the French Chablis model; the wine is primarily tank fermented to retain acidity which develops a high fruit, leaner style wine that highlights the quality of the fruit character. This lightly oaked Chardonnay has aromas of fresh sliced green apples, honeysuckle, caramel, and Crème brûlée. Flavors of green apples, pear, and honeydew melon are enhanced by hints of toasty oak and butterscotch. The full intense flavors and bright, crisp, natural acidity make this a perfect pairing with fruit and cheese as an appetizer or with grilled lemon chicken for an entrée.

### Brand Story

Mossback is an old fashioned term for farmer. The Giguiere family has had a long history of farming, and for the Mossback brand has sought fruit from some of the most renowned farmers in the Russian River Valley. Mossback also speaks to the cool weather that contributes to the unique quality of the fruit from the coastal region.

### Winemaking Notes

Our Mossback chardonnay is grown in the heart of the Russian River Valley appellation at Dutton's Mill Station Vineyard and Balletto's Occidental Ranch. Deciding when to pick is the most critical decision to make in this cool region. Patience is the key as some years the fruit does not fully mature until November causing constant worry about rain and frost. When Mother Nature cooperates we get some of the most intensely flavored wine around. 80% of this wine is cold fermented to preserve and enhance the crisp fruity character; the remainder is barrel fermented to add subtle oak and vanilla richness. We also blend in a small amount of our Dunnigan Hills chardonnay from the Giguiere Family's two vineyards to increase complexity and add tropical notes.

