



2010 Estate Chardonnay - Verna's

2,205 cases produced, \$24/bottle

release date 03.02.12

This wine is 100% from our Los Alamos estate and is a combination of clones 4, 76, 95, 96 and selections Mount Eden and Hudson. Like our Sta. Rita Hills vineyards, Verna's location directly north also endures very windy conditions and is planted on extremely sandy and porous soils. The main difference between the two ranches is that Verna's has slightly younger vines and the average daily temperatures are 3 to 7 degrees warmer or colder on a daily basis. We think these slight differences impact the resulting wines by making them more tender and approachable while still also maintaining that bright acidity that is so indicative of our region. Fruit was harvested by hand then gently whole-cluster pressed, cold settled overnight and transferred by gravity to barrel for fermentation in neutral (5 to 12 year old) French oak barrels, partial malolactic ($\pm 10\%$) and subsequent sur lie aging without any lees disturbance. Yields were 3.4 lbs./vine (3.1 tons per acre). 13.8% alcohol.

Tasting Notes: Boasting a bright yellow gold hue, fresh aromas of pineapple rind, dried cilantro, sourdough, and lemon meringue spring from the glass. Other notes of almond skin, key lime, honeycomb, and fresh ricotta drift in the background. The palate is bright and vibrant while ending round and complete.