



2007 SEBELLA CHARDONNAY

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: Charming and complex with aromas of ripe apple, hazelnut and honeysuckle. As the wine opens, more of the classic characteristics of our vineyard – chamomile and citrus peel – shine through. The wine's pedigree is evident with a creamy entry, fullness in the mouth yet with great acidity, and expansive flavors of lemon custard combining with a long, mineral-laden finish.

Sebella is the new companion label to the Hanzell Vineyards Estate wines. Lovingly named after the owner's children (Sebastian and Isabella), Sebella has been created by following old world Grand Cru Domaine and First Growth Chateau classification philosophies.

After finalizing the blend for the Hanzell Estate Chardonnay from eighteen separate barrel lots, we tasted through each remaining barrel. We then blended these few select barrels to craft a Chardonnay to enjoy now, while our Estate Chardonnay, with its intensity and structure, ages gracefully in the cellar.

As our new Chardonnay vineyards come into their own sense of place and time, Sebella will also allow us a way to audition these new clone and rootstock combinations prior to inclusion in the Hanzell Estate Chardonnay.

Winemaker's Vintage Notes: A dry, cool spring started the 2007 growing season with an even bud-break throughout the vineyard. Very mild weather carried through May and June when temperatures spiked for four days. The remainder of July and August was marked by warm, sunny days followed by cool nights and foggy mornings. At times, the fog was so thick that the vines looked as if they had been rained upon, necessitating increased diligence in the vineyards. The large diurnal swings allowed flavor development to keep pace with the sugars so we were able to harvest our fruit with fully ripe flavors and balanced sugar accumulation. The result is an elegant and refined expression of our Chardonnay.

— Michael McNeill, Winemaker

TECHNICAL DETAILS

762 CASES BOTTLED

30 % BARREL FERMENTED

18 -MONTHS TOTAL ELEVAGE; 12 MONTHS IN 30% NEW SIRUGUE BARRELS