

Estate expression • Elevated vineyards • Rare

Our Highland Estates wines showcase our estate properties located on mountains, ridges, hillsides and benchlands in cool coastal California vineyards. This series is all about *terroir*. Each label has a pictorial representation of the estate vineyard from which the fruit was sourced. The combination of soil, elevation and climate on each estate is a key contributor to the wine's powerful style.

## PINER HILLS

### 2006 CHARDONNAY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

#### STATISTICAL INFORMATION

**Appellation:**

Russian River Valley

**Composition:**

100% Chardonnay

**Barrel Aging:**

Aged 9 months in 68% new French oak barrels

**Cases Produced:** 272

**Alcohol:** 14.4

**TA:** .54 g/100 ml

**pH:** 3.59

#### KEY POINTS

**Elevation:** 100 – 150 feet above sea level.

**Source:** Russian River in Sonoma County, 100% Chardonnay

**Clonal Selection:** Dijon and 4.

**Soil:** Huichica Clay. This is a very limiting sandy loam soil with a rooting zone of 2 to 4 feet. It has an impenetrable cemented layer of ash and gravel beneath the topsoil, limiting vine growth and intensifying the fruit flavors in autumn.

**Flavor Profile:** Elusive notes of golden ripe pear drizzled with caramel and a hint of smoky toasted grain. Finishes with a lemony mineral brightness.

**Climate:** Overlooks the Santa Rosa Plain that surrounds it to the south and east. The year-round cool environment created by the influx of cool breezes tempers the exotic fruit flavors of the grapes.

