



HILL FAMILY
ESTATE

2009 "Carly's Cuvee" Chardonnay

Production: 1,570 cases

Composition: 100% Chardonnay

Appellation: 43% Oakville, 43% American Canyon and 14% Russian River Valley.

Elevation: 57% valley floor and 43% hillsides (400 ft.)

Cooperage: 10 months in French oak barrels

Alcohol: 14.1%, TA 0.66, pH 3.57

Release date: Spring 2011

Release price: \$27.00

The 2009 "Carly's Cuvee" Chardonnay came from a selection of vineyards in Oakville, the steep hillsides of Watson Vineyard in American Canyon and the Hill Family Vineyard in Russian River. The 2009 season brought us the third winter in a row with drought conditions, but by March, rainfall was close to normal. A mild and cool spring coupled with a touch of late season rains ensured strong yet well-balanced vine growth. A small heat spike in early July, followed by temperate summer days, allowed the fruit to steadily ripen. September arrived with the warmest weather of the season, enabling us to harvest our vineyards at the peak of ripeness before the fall rains. Carly Hill is the daughter of Doug and Darci Hill. Carly's battle and her victory with leukemia is honored with this beautiful wine.

Winemaker Alison Doran's Tasting notes:

Made in a partial malolactic style, with only light oak influence, this rich and layered Chardonnay will please people looking for a wine that enhances food, but holds its own out on the patio with its lovely fruit and easy balance. The nose has aromatics of vanilla cream, pineapple and lemon blossom notes. The palate has a lovely integrated balance, with lemon and ripe apple flavors in the center and a little honey and spice on the silky finish.