



HARTFORD
COURT

STONE CÔTE VINEYARD

SONOMA COAST • CHARDONNAY

2009

VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Stone Côte Vineyard is a small vineyard block within the well-known Durell vineyard, which sits upon an ancient riverbed at the base of Sonoma Mountain in the cool Sonoma Coast AVA. For centuries this ancient river cut a path into volcanic and sedimentary rock on its way to the Pacific Ocean. The vineyard's topography has been shaped by that flow. Tumbled and water-worn cobblestones now litter the landscape and very little topsoil remains. The nutritionally challenged soils force the vines to search deeply for nutrients and water, forcing the vineyard to work hard to ripen its fruit. The stressed vines, in turn, yield very small clusters with intense varietal flavors.

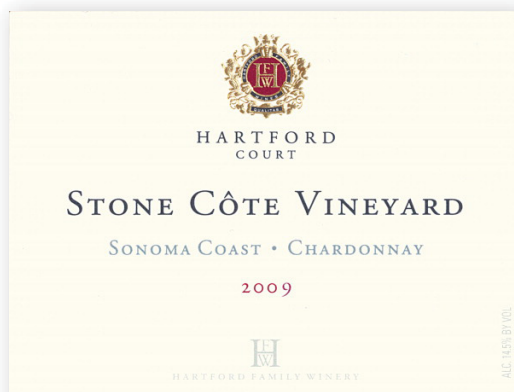
Climatically this vineyard site is characterized by cool daytime temperatures, high winds and cold ocean breezes. The low- fertility soils and the cool temperatures unite to form an ideal site for growing Chardonnay. The wine's flinty aromas and mineral-laden finish are a reflection of this vineyard's *terroir*.

TASTING NOTES

This single-vineyard bottling from the 2009 vintage offers restrained minerality and aromas of spiced pear, nectarine and crushed rock. The 2009 Stone Côte has great balance with white peach and Brazil nut flavors that complement its refined texture and long, mineral finish.

WINE STATISTICS

Oak: 100% French oak, 50% new
Time in oak: 15 months
Yeast: Native
Alcohol: 14.6%
TA: 5.3 g/L
pH: 3.83
Cases produced: 643
Unfined and Unfiltered



HISTORIC ACCLAIM

- 2009: **“Outstanding” 92 points** Stephen Tanzer’s *International Wine Cellar*, May 2011
- 2009: **“Outstanding” 92-94 points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, February 2011
- 2008: **“Outstanding” 92 points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, February 2010
- 2008: **“Outstanding” 91 points** Stephen Tanzer’s *International Wine Cellar*, May 2010
- 2007: **“Outstanding” 95 points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, December 2008
- 2006: **“Extraordinary” 96 points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, December 2007
- 2005: **“Outstanding” 93 points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, December 2006
- 2004: **“Outstanding” 91 points** *Connoisseur’s Guide to California Wine*, December 2006
- 2003: **“Outstanding” 94+ points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, December 2005
- 2002: **“Outstanding” 93 points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, February 2005
- 2001: **“Outstanding” 93 points** Robert Parker’s *The Wine Advocate*, December 2003
- 2000: **“Editor’s Choice” 90 points** Steve Heimoff, *The Wine Enthusiast*, August 2003