

Issue #187, February 2010

2008 Chardonnays and 2008 Zinfandels



92

HARTFORD

95

2008 Stone Côte Vineyard Sonoma Coast CHARDONNAY The 2008 Chardonnay Stone Côte (a block of vines within the larger Durell Vineyard on the Sonoma Coast) is an unfiltered, crisp, elegant white exhibiting notes of creamy crème brulée, white peach, apricot and lemon blossom intertwined with hints of quince, wet stones and nectarines. The beauty reveals unmistakable minerality as well as power allied to elegance.

Crisp, zesty notes of citrus, peaches, lemon oil, candied apples, and brioche alone with tart acids are found in this lean Chardonnay as well as impressive minerality and a long finish.

Four Hearts Vineyard Russian River Valley CHARDONNAY

2008

2008 Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL The 2008 Zinfandel Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard boasts abundant aromas (black raspberries, blackberries, spring flowers, spice) reminiscent of a top-notch Pomerol. Silky-textured and full-bodied with a superb texture and long finish, this is another exquisite Zinfandel to consume over the next 5-7 years.

95 POINTS 2008 Hartford Vineyard Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL A deep ruby/purple color is accompanied by glorious aromas of blackberries, boysenberries, raspberries, earth and spice. Full-bodied as well as remarkably elegant and textured, this beauty is an exquisite example of old vine Zinfandel from northern California. Drink it over the next 7-8 years. All of these wines were bottled unrefined and unfiltered.

2008 Highwire Vineyard Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL A reference point offering the 2008 Zinfandel Highwire Vineyard exhibits abundant aromas of blackberries, cassis, sweet cherries, and earth as well as blockbuster flavors. Rich and full-bodied with oodles of fruit, a layered texture, a velvety style, and a luscious, concentrated finish, this superb Zinfandel should age nicely for 5-7 years.

91 POINTS

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2008The 2008 Zinfandel Jolene's Vineyard reveals a deep ruby/purple hue as well as a perfume
of ground pepper, vanilla, barbeque smoke, black cherries, and blackberries. With full
body as well as invigorating, fresh acidity, it cuts a broad swath across the palate. It is a
fragrant Zinfandel, and the tart acids seem to keep everything in balance. Enjoy it over
the next 4-5 years.

2008

Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL The 2008 Zinfandel Russian River, a dark ruby/purple-hued effort displaying a big, ripe nose of black raspberries, briery mountain fruit, pepper, spice and earth with a hint of wood smoke in the background. Full-bodied, fleshy, and rich, this impressive Zinfandel can be drunk over the next 4-5 years. Made from an old (some vines are over 100 years of age), dry-farmed, head-trained vineyard.