

DUTTON *Goldfield*

2000 Dutton Ranch **CHARDONNAY** Russian River Valley

APPELLATION
Russian River Valley –
Green Valley

VINEYARDS
Big Block Vineyard
Mill Station Vineyard
Morelli Lane Vineyard
Rued Vineyard

ALCOHOL
13.5%

TITRATABLE ACIDITY
.61

PH
3.50

WINEMAKING
100% barrel fermentation,
100% malolactic
fermentation, lees stirred
twice monthly

BARREL AGING
Aged 10 months in
French oak barrels

WINEMAKER
Dan Goldfield

CASES PRODUCED
1,400

THE VINEYARDS

Dutton Ranch farms over sixty unique, separate vineyards located in the coolest areas of the Russian River Valley, primarily in the Green Valley sub-appellation. We at Dutton-Goldfield choose our favorite Dutton Ranch vineyards to craft a wine reflecting our vision of classic Russian River Valley Chardonnay. The vineyards we choose are based on our desire to offer wines with fruit intensity, great acid structure, and richness even after full barrel and malolactic fermentation.

The Rued and Mill Station vineyards are both old clone, 30 years-old vineyards located in the coldest parts of Green Valley. Morelli Lane and Big Block vineyards are younger plantings of favorite clonal selections; Big Block being in the coldest part of the Green Valley, and Morelli located high on the western hillside.

WINEMAKING

The individual lots are barrel fermented and undergo malolactic fermentation, with the lees being stirred twice monthly. The blend is assembled, with the primary lees, in early spring, and continues to age in the French oak barrels through the summer. We at Dutton-Goldfield choose our barrels to emphasize the fruit and vineyard characteristics of the wine, instead of showcasing the oak itself. The wine is bottled in early fall after approximately ten months in barrel.

THE WINE

The 2000 vintage was wonderful for Dutton Ranch Chardonnay. This offering displays the great acid balance and lushness that we envision for our fruit. Leading with citrus and tropical aromas, the wine goes on to deliver candied lime, pineapple and bright acid structure on the palate. While the bright fruit makes this a beautiful wine in its youth, the acid structure and balance lend it to aging.