

BENZIGER

FAMILY WINERY

2008 SANGIACOMO VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

Alcohol 14.2% | Total Acidity .73 | pH 3.37



TASTING NOTES | Our Sangiacomo Vineyard Chardonnay is crisp and lean with a medium mouthfeel. True varietal characteristics take center stage with flavors of bright green apple, pear and peach.

WINEMAKING | Five vineyard blocks were hand selected from Sangiacomo Vineyard to give this Chardonnay the balanced acidity and structure we were after. Loamy soil near Sonoma Creek gives this area of the vineyard a distinctive minerality and lean, crisp citrus flavors. All of the fruit was whole-cluster pressed before cold barrel fermentation. We fermented and aged the wine in

Hungarian oak barrels (20% new) for eleven months. The traditional practice of batonnage was used to build body, texture and to integrate flavors.

VINTAGE | “Extreme” would be a good description of the 2008 vintage. The elements played a huge roll in our vineyard management – from frost, to drought, to high wines, to heat waves and eventually smoke from fires hundreds of miles away, we were hard at work from start to finish. Initially, harvest began early in August, but cooler temperatures slowed things down a bit and the rest of the harvest was evenly paced and lasted into October. 2008 vintage was excellent for Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay. With no rain during the growing season the Sauvignon Blanc fruit was very clean and fully-ripened with loads of flavor.

BENZIGER FARMING PRACTICES | At Benziger Family Winery, we are dedicated to winemaking that reveals the true character of the vineyard, the varietal and the vintage in certified-sustainable, -organically grown and-Biodynamic® wines defined by individuality and the passion of the people who make them. This wine was made with grapes grown by certified sustainable farming methods. Our sustainable philosophy promotes natural vineyard management, restoration of the land and biodiversity on the estate. We believe these practices result in wines that reflect the authentic flavors, aromas and character of the vineyard.