

2010 ZIO TONY RANCH - RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

Vineyard Character: Planted in 1990 by the Martinelli family, Zio Tony Ranch is located on Frei Road in the heart of the Russian River's cool Green Valley. Our two parcels are planted on top of a gently sloping hill to Dijon Chardonnay clones 76 and 95, on well-drained, low-vigor, Goldridge sandy loam soils. These iron-rich, reddish soils consistently produce fruit with great structure and acidity.

Tasting Notes: This wine strikes a deft balance between depth and delicateness. The initial aromas are fresh and inviting with layers of peach and green apple, supported by richer notes of vanilla bean, toasted spice, toffee and dusty cedar. On the palate, excellent acidity adds length and precision to peach pie, grapefruit and mocha flavors that are deep and expressive without ever being heavy— Chardonnay that shows its cool-vintage character with elegance and flair.

Winemaking:

100% Chardonnay fruit
Whole-cluster pressed
100% indigenous yeast fermentations (wild)
Sur lie aged with weekly stirring
100% malo-lactic fermentation in barrel
64% new Burgundian French oak barrels
Bottled without filtration

Release Date: March 2012 Cases Produced: 472

THE PATZ & HALL FAMILY OF WINEGROWERS

George Martinelli - Zio Tony Ranch - Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

Since 1887, five generations of the Martinelli family have grown grapes in California. In this time, the Martinelli family has earned acclaim for its expertise growing premium grapes in the Russian River Valley, and more recently on the Sonoma Coast. Zio Tony Ranch is farmed by George Martinelli, the youngest in the distinguished family of Sonoma County viticultural masters. The Martinelli family named Zio Tony Ranch to honor their uncle Tony, predecessor to the current generation of Martinellis.

James Hall

James Hall Winemaker