



SUACCI CARCIERE

2007 CHARDONNAY

Heintz Vineyard / Russian River Valley

The Winery

Based in the small Russian River Valley town of Sebastopol, Suacci Carciere released its inaugural wines in 2006. These wines capture the owners' commitment to showcasing small, artisan vineyards of the cool western Sonoma County winegrowing region. Suacci Carciere wines offer broad fruit flavors, fresh, crisp structure, and notable depth, complexity and texture. We hope you enjoy our wines as much as we enjoy crafting them.

Grape Source: Heintz Vineyard

Owned and managed by Charles E. Heintz, Heintz Vineyard is located just outside the town of Occidental, and is one of the best known and most sought-after Chardonnay vineyards in the Russian River Valley, Sonoma Coast and Green Valley appellations. The vineyard sits high above the confluence of appellations and is diligently farmed by hand. The vineyard block where this wine is sourced is noted for producing Chardonnay with exceptional complexity and crisp, bright, layered flavors.

Vintage Notes

The 2007 vintage was a breeze at Heintz Vineyard. It was cool, calm and collected. There were no worries of botrytis, and the fruit was able to ripen to a level that provided us with rich complexity. This resulted in a wine that remained in our style: fresh acidity and lower alcohol. This, however is definitely the boldest version of Heintz that we have made. Low alcohol levels, bright acidity and intense flavors were the hallmarks of the vintage.

Winemaking Techniques

Picked by hand on October 20th, the fruit was fermented in 50% stainless steel and 50% French oak to create good balance between crisp flavors and round mouthfeel. Higher acidity of the temperate vintage called for 100% malolactic fermentation with aggressive lees stirring to add creamy, round tones, while maintaining the desired backbone and crispness in the wine. Eleven months in barrel added additional complexity and subtle vanilla tones on the finish.

Winemaker Notes

The consistency of the vineyard is what makes the Heintz Vineyard special. Once again, the Chardonnay has exotic flavors of lemon, apple and mineral. 2007's cool September allowed us a long hang time to develop more complex layers without getting overripe fruit. The resulting wine has a richer mouthfeel yet still is low in alcohol, and balanced by the crisp, firm acidity. This wine is showing well young, but it will be very interesting to see how much more complex it will get over the next 5 years. An excellent match for sharp cheeses & spicy Asian dishes.



Technical Notes

<i>Appellation:</i>	Russian River Valley
<i>Composition:</i>	100% Chardonnay
<i>Time in Barrel:</i>	11 months
<i>T.A.:</i>	.7
<i>pH:</i>	3.6
<i>Alcohol:</i>	14.1%
<i>Cases Produced:</i>	200

Winemaker:	Ryan Zepaltas
Proprietors:	Andy Carciere and John D. Suacci