



## **2009 AU BON CLIMAT SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CHARDONNAY**

The '09 Santa Barbara, released on the heels of the lauded 2008, is every bit as fresh, balanced, and delicious. The fruit comes from primarily Santa Maria Valley (Bien Nacido, Rancho Vinedo) and Los Alamos Vineyard. It is whole cluster pressed and fermented in neutral Francois Freres French oak barrels and was matured sur lie in the same barrels for 9-10 months. It was bottled without filtration.

This natural, non-technological, stylish and traditional winemaking consistently produces elegant, textural, complex and food-enhancing Chardonnays. The '09 reminds me of the '85,'89,'92 and '99, and '02 wines. It has aromas of citrus, stone fruit, and custard apple. The flavors are smooth and integrated, creamy and tense, with apricot, golden delicious apple and lemon verbena nuances. This wine is the 28th in a series of ABC Santa Barbara County Chardonnays and embodies the same regional style that we have refined over the years.