

2006 Russian River Valley  
**Chardonnay**



**Zepaltas**  
**ZW**  
ines

## 2006 Russian River Valley Chardonnay

### Winemaker's Notes:

This is the second vintage of this wine. I set out to make a different kind of chardonnay when I started this RRV project in 2005. I had nothing to lose at that point since there was not much wine to go around- if it sucked down the drain it would go. I decided to leave the wines in barrel a bit longer than usual (16 months) to hopefully pick up some new layers of complexity. This wine has gone through full malolactic fermentation, but fear not; it is not a heavy-handed wine. It is bright, exotic and refreshing on the palate.

The 2006 is similar to the 2005 in that it has aromas of peach, apricot, cream and a hint of roasted almond. In the mouth it is explosive. It has a bright mouthfeel and is a fun wine to drink because of its unique styling. It is a far cry from your average chardonnay from CA. Most of my friends when blind tasted, have not guessed it as Chardonnay. If you are into something a bit outside the Chardonnay realm, this wine is definitely worth a shot.

This wine pairs great with grilled seafood, chicken, salads, and creamy cheeses.

Ryan Zepaltas winemaker

### wine info

46 cases produced

50% new French Oak

16 months in barrel

14.5 % Alc

.6 TA

3.7 pH

