



CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Our estate vineyards planted in 1990 on the Napa Valley hillsides east of the Silverado Trail provided the grapes. A variety of exposures increased the wines complexity. Western slopes: Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Eastern slopes: Cabernet Franc and a second Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard. Crop level and vine growth were closely monitored to achieve balance and intensify fruit character. The vineyards are densely planted (1240 vines per acre) and vertically trellised. The rocky soil with moderate amount of clay averaging three feet in depth provides excellent drainage.

Appellation: 100% Napa Valley Estate

Blend: 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17 % Merlot, 8 % Cabernet Franc

Harvested: October 19 through October 30, 2006

Brix at Harvest: Between 25.8 and 26.5

Total Acidity: 0.57

Ph: 3.88

Alcohol: 14.3%

Total Production: 2,750 cases



Tasting Notes: Our signature wine is a deep, dark red color and opens to raspberry, anise, chocolate and vanilla. The lush, full-bodied palate continues with flavors of red berry, cedar, leather and hints of tobacco. This wine's incredible balance and long finish is accentuated by its integrated tannins and round, lush flavors. Enjoy with chocolate, cheese, Filet Mignon, NY Strip steak, Flat Iron steak or venison. Drinkability: Now to 2022.

Winemaking Notes: Our Estate program follows traditional French winemaking practices. Techniques include the use of extended maceration (each lot averaged 25 days on the grape skins) and frequent pumping-over (two times a day). The 2006 vintage aged for 21 months in 43% new Tronçais, Nevers and Alliers Oak (thin-staved, medium & medium-plus toast Chateau Ferre barrels). Tonnelleries: Seguin Moreau, Radoux, Demptos, Sylvain and Doreau. Barrels were topped monthly and racked every 6 months. To preserve fruit intensity and body, the wine was not filtered prior to bottling on August 7, 2008.

Harvest Report: After a year that kept grape growers on their toes, vintners and winemakers breathed a sigh of relief as the 2006 harvest closed. Flooding kicked off the New Year in Napa Valley, which made for great TV footage, but did little damage to the dormant vines, as cover crops stabilized soils in the vineyards. In mid July, a record-setting heat wave lasted about ten days, but with the crops a few weeks behind, damage was almost nil. According to Pierre Birebent, the overall quality of 2006 looks outstanding and should be an excellent vintage.