

2009 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley



Winemaker's Notes:

Our Napa Valley Estate Cabernet Sauvignon presents with deep vibrant red and purple shades. Intense aromas of black currant and black plum dominate, combining with subtle elements of espresso, anise and dark toasted French oak. Flavors follow with blackberry and black plum, molasses and a sweet fruit ripeness entwined with a note of dark cocoa. This is a rich, structured wine with excellent depth and flavor.

Growing Season:

After several dry seasons, January 2009 started in similar fashion. February brought a few storms, but the remainder of the year was short on rain. This was good for vineyard flavors and also served to moderate the yields. After pleasant conditions in the spring, June brought average temperatures while July really turned up the heat for two weeks which was followed by some hot days in August. All of this led to wines with good structure and intensity.

Winemaking:

The fruit was harvested in the cool morning hours, then crushed to tank where fermentation commenced after a brief period of resting on skins. Warm fermentation temperatures were encouraged to achieve the desired color and structure for the wine before an extended maceration time on skins prior to final pressing. The wine was transferred directly to barrel for 22 months of maturation.

Appellation	Napa Valley
Vineyard	Dollarhide Estate Vineyard Rutherford Estate Vineyard
Variety/Blend	95% Cabernet Sauvignon 5% Merlot
Oak Maturation	100% French oak (40% new oak), 22 months
pH	3.77
T. Acidity	5.9 g/L
Residual Sugar Dry,	<0.2%
Alcohol	14.7%
Harvest Dates	September 23 – October 11, 2009
Bottling Date	August 16 – 18, August 23, August 31 – September 2, 2011
Suggested Retail Price	\$30.00