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Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 Napa Valley

The Wine

Our Napa Valley Cabernet sauvignon is a blend created from select vineyards and appellations within the renowned Napa Valley. Drawing on his experience with Cabernet Sauvignon clones and his intimate knowledge of sub-appellations within the region, Anthony has created a wine that builds upon the unique terroir of Napa Valley. Our 2007 vintage is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon (82%) (28% Clone 4, 23% Clone 337, 21% Clone 6, and 10% Clone 7), Petit Verdot (7%), Merlot (4%), Malbec (4%), and Cabernet franc (3%) from vineyards in Carneros, Rutherford, Oakville, and Yountville. The wine was aged in a combination of French (84%) and American (16%) oak barrels, of which 56% were new barrels, for 22 months. The wine was not fined and received a screen filtration prior to bottling.

Vintage Notes

The 2007 growing season was a wonderful year for grape growing. Overall, it was very dry and cool. Winter temperatures were warmer than normal into spring resulting in earlier budding, bloom and set in the vineyards across all varieties. Few days in summer topped 100 degrees, with fewer days in the 90s than normal. This meant less irrigation, allowing the grapes to mature naturally and slowly. A brief heat spike around Labor Day added the boost of sugar development that growers were looking for to complement the excellent acid. Harvest commenced in mid-August and was evenly paced. With wines of incredible intensity and concentration, 2007 looks to be the best vintage in many years.

Tasting Notes

Our Cabernet sauvignon, deep ruby in color, has rich, ripe cherry, cassis and blackberry fruit aromas. Soft tannins and sweet oak combine with a gentle hint of pepper and spice to yield a full-bodied wine with excellent balance and a long lingering finish. The different Cabernet clones give the wine a multi-layered dimension to the palate. The long growing season at the Truchard Vineyard in the cool Carneros district yields grapes with deep color and great natural acidity. The Beckstoffer Georges III Vineyard on the Conn Creek alluvial fan adjacent to Caymus in Rutherford delivers classic mid-valley fruit and supple tannins and "Rutherford Dust" earth flavors. The Petit Verdot adds depth to the color and a tannic richness, while the Merlot, Malbec and Cabernet franc bring softness, acidity and fruit respectively. Crafted in a rich, concentrated European style, this wine pairs well with flavorful, full-bodied meals, and will develop a harmonious smoothness with age. Excellent today, the wine will also reward those with the patience to cellar it.

Technical Analysis

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| Varietal: | Cabernet Sauvignon (82%) Petit Verdot (7%) Malbec (4%), Merlot (4%) Cabernet franc (3%) |
| Appellation: | Napa Valley |
| Total Acid | 0.60 gm/100ml |
| pH | 3.72 |
| Alcohol | 14.8% |
| Aging | 22 months in 84% French 16% American Oak, 56% new |
| Bottle Date | July 2009 |
| Production | 1,715 cases |

