

SILVER OAK

2 0 0 9

Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

TASTING NOTES

Our 2009 Silver Oak Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is a ripe, rich, layered, yet elegant wine. It has a dark, ruby color and a complex nose of cassis jam, mocha, violets and nutmeg. On the palate, the wine has a delectable berry-laden entry and a rich, mouth-coating mid-palate. The tannins are beautifully integrated and the wine has a long, satiny finish. Given proper cellaring, this wine should give drinking pleasure through 2032.

BLENDING AND AGING

Our 2009 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, selected from vineyards throughout the appellation, is 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. We blended the vineyard lots in early 2010 and transferred the wine to 100% new American oak barrels for aging. Blending prior to barreling allows us to achieve a balance of the wine's primary elements, such as fruit and tannin, before they are influenced by oak. The wine was then aged in barrel for approximately 24 months and another 20 months in bottle to harmonize its components before release.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2009 vintage was saved by significant rainfall in May that made up for a dry winter. Moderate late season ripening conditions brought the fruit to perfect maturity. Bloom conditions were excellent and the crop was even and of average yield. The summer was mild with a few heat spikes. Foggy mornings in August and September prolonged the ripening period. Harvest began on September 9th and concluded on October 12th. Due to the use of a new Berry Sensory Assessment protocol adapted from the French Institut Cooperatif du Vin and our longstanding philosophy of producing wines of moderate alcohol, we were able to harvest fruit at peak flavor and skin maturity and finish picking before Typhoon Melor struck on October 13th and drenched the vineyards with 6 inches of rain. Our 2009 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon displays the ripeness and balance of fruit picked under ideal conditions.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| VINTAGE | 2009 |
| APPELLATION | Napa Valley |
| COMPOSITION | 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot |
| BOTTLE SIZES | 750ml, 1.5 L Magnum, 3 L Double Magnum, 6 L Imperial |
| ALCOHOL | 13.9% |
| RELEASE DAY | February 1, 2014 |

