

RESERVE  SELECTION

Raymond

2008 RESERVE SELECTION NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



BARREL NO. 511 FIVE GENERATIONS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING

TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: NAPA VALLEY

VARIETAL: 85% CABERNET SAUVIGNON,
12% MERLOT, 3% PETITE SIRAH

ALCOHOL: 15% BY VOL.

PH: 3.76

TA: 7.0 G/L

FERMENTATION: 22 MONTHS

- 43% NEW FRENCH OAK

RELEASE DATE: JANUARY 2011

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$31.99

IN THE VINEYARD

The grapes for the Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon were sourced from our estate vineyards in Rutherford and St. Helena, as well as select nearby growers. Both estate vineyards are located on gravelly alluvial fan soils with good drainage, necessary for growing excellent quality Cabernet Sauvignon. The vineyards are diligently monitored throughout the growing season to balance the crop size and quality. Shoot thinning and leaf removal early in the growing season followed by cluster thinning at veraison, help to achieve evenly ripened grapes with concentrated flavors.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE

The season started off cool and rainy but the spring was one of the driest on record. Growers were initially predicting a very early harvest, however, because of the cooler summer it started just a little ahead of normal. A heat spell early in September kicked everyone into high gear as several varieties were ready to pick all at once, but just as quickly as the heat arrived, the temperatures dropped to well below normal and there was time to catch up. All in all, 2008 was as a low-yielding, yet high-quality vintage.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE WINEMAKER

The wine spent about 12-15 days on the skins, then was aged for 22 months in 43% new French (mostly Nadalie and Demptos Center of France, medium plus toast). The balance was aged in once and twice used French oak.

WINE PROFILE

Very concentrated aromas of mixed berry patch, boysenberry, molasses and blueberry are followed by hints of cedar and anise. This is a full-bodied Cabernet Sauvignon that boasts lots of volume and is rich and velvety with notes of dark fruit and black tea. A pleasing wine with rich, sweet oak, a pleasant minerality and Bing cherry. This wine has great length to the finish.