

Stickybeak



Definition

1. -n. *Australian slang* a busybody or nosey neighbor; a meddler in others' affairs; v. to 'have a look'; to investigate something
2. -n. an inquisitive bunch of vintners from Napa, California

2009 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley



They say curiosity killed the cat, but satisfaction brought it back. There are so many sides to Napa Cabernet, although we lean toward the least trodden path - true Cabernet aromatics of violets, blackcurrant, perfumed spice and leafy notes with a seamless palate that is not overdone. Well, it almost got the better of us, but finding both a Napa valley floor and hillside vineyard to express this seamless balance was the reward we needed.

WHERE'S IT AT? (OUR VINEYARDS)

Our objective is to create a seamless Cabernet Sauvignon - nothing overdone, especially the oak. To achieve this, we sought vineyards from both the benches around Yountville, in the Oak Knoll District specifically, and the high reaches of the eastern hills in Pope Valley. The blend of earthy, fruit driven Cabernet from the valley floor combined with chiseled hillside tannins and acidity is very appealing. This, along with a small parcel of Merlot, gave us our desired palate weight and texture.

HOW'D WE MAKE IT?

After harvest, which took place on October 9th and 21st, it's really hands off as much as possible. A brief 3 day cold soak followed by a week-long fermentation and then a two week post ferment maceration is all it takes to get the ball rolling. The varieties are kept separate during their 18 month maturation before final blending and bottling.

WHAT'S IT TASTE LIKE?

The aromas are perfumed violets, blackberries, dark cherries and cedary spice. The long, rich palate is finely structured and expresses brambly dark fruit characters and high toned cherry notes alongside hints of dark cocoa and licorice. All flavors are pulled together nicely with fine grained tannins.

FOR CURIOUS STICKYBEAKS

VINEYARDS: Napa Valley - Oak Knoll District and Pope Valley

HARVEST DATES: Oct. 9 and 21, 2009 **BOTTLING DATE:** February 2011

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME: 14.1% **TITRATABLE ACID:** 4.7 g/L **pH:** 3.84

FERMENTATION/MATURATION: Aged for 18 months in French oak (50% new)

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