

2005 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



NOBLE

BLEND: Cabernet Sauvignon (95%), Petite Sirah (5%)
AGING TIME: 29 Months in 80% French Oak Barrels (50% new)
MACERATION: 12 Days
CASES PRODUCED: 328
ALCOHOL: 14.8%
RETAIL: \$80 750ml, \$160 1.5L Magnum
WINEMAKER: David Lattin

TASTING NOTES

This attractive dark, ruby-colored wine reveals a tight, but promising nose of sweet kirsch, black currants and high-quality French Oak. On the palate, aromas of blackberries, cassis, earth and a touch of herbs are followed by deep, rustic but yet well-rounded tannins. This medium to full-bodied wine will evolve drastically after being decanted a couple of hours prior. Still youthful, it promises to evolve gracefully for 10 to 15 years.

VINEYARDS

On this late-ripening year, the blend includes mountain fruit (48% Pritchard Hill, 47% Atlas Peak in order to keep the overall structure similarly balanced and to avoid any green character sometimes associated with the valley floor. The remaining 5% is Petite Sirah which helps round out the blend's structure.

VINTAGE NOTES

Winter rains took pause for a dry, mild March then began again with the record-setting precipitation late into the growing season delaying bloom and set. The summer months were cool and pleasant with few heat spikes. Fog and cool temperatures were a concern heading into September as sugar levels were yet to rise in all varieties. Warm, nearly perfect conditions arrived with an Indian summer making for a later than average harvest.

