



Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Vintage: 2008

Color: Dark purple

Aroma: Lots of sweet black fruit, ripe blackberries, Bing cherries, dark chocolate, ripe red rose and their crushed petals with hints of licorice and cigar box.

Taste: Sweet tannins with hints of cedar, coffee and chocolate cake. Great intensity, full bodied with a multi-layered mouth feel. The smooth after taste and lingering finish should make this wine better for 12-16 years and then hold for another ten plus after that!

The Year: 2008 began with intense storms that brought high winds and heavy rains to the region, but that soon waned and Napa Valley experienced a dry Spring. The drier soils prompted vines to push out early, providing the “perfect storm” for frigid, dry air to create conditions for the deepest and longest frost period in decades. As Spring progressed there was cooling and rain at bloom, a relatively cool Summer delayed veraison, requiring careful crop thinning then a big hot spell came along in early September. The heat spell ratcheted everyone into high gear as several varieties were coming into ripeness all at once. The red varieties however benefited from long hang times in warm weather providing excellent ripening and a balanced structure. While a lighter than average vintage, 2008 looks to be another where vintners and growers in Napa Valley will continue their well-earned reputation for excellence in the world of wine.

The Wine: Conn Valley’s Cabernets are made from 100% Estate grown grapes from the vineyards located at the winery site in Conn Valley. This vintage is a blend of numerous clonal varieties of Cabernet Sauvignon, each of which contributes to the character of the wine and adds complexity. Prior to blending and bottling, the 2008 vintage was aged in the hillside caves located on the Conn Valley Estate.

Harvest: September 23 - October 15, 2008
Brix: 26.1
TA/pH: 0.64/3.71
Bottled: August 2010
Released: April 2011
Varietal: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, 100% Estate grown
Alcohol: 15.3%
Appellation: 100% Napa Valley, 100% 2008 Vintage