



Cornerstone Cellars, The Cornerstone, Napa Valley

Composition: 95% Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Station, Oakville, 2.5% Cabernet Franc Talcott Vineyard, St. Helena, 2.5% Merlot Stewart Ranch Vineyard, Carneros. Harvest: Each of the vineyards were harvested between late September and mid-October in perfect conditions. Bottling Date: July 14th., 2011, Case Production: 89 cases, Bottling Analysis: Alcohol 14.9%, pH 3.69, T.A. 0.580 g/100mL

2009 The Cornerstone

From the quality of our fruit to the execution of every detail in the cellar, we set the highest standard for “The Cornerstone”. The Cornerstone is created to express our passion for excellence as well as the unique terroir that is Napa Valley. We feel the wine should possess all the elements of greatness - individuality, power combined with elegance, extraordinary complexity and remarkable aging potential. Striving to provide a wine that is the most profound expression of the vintage, we combine Bordeaux varietals from a number of our classic vineyards without constraints. We assemble the finest blend from the finest barrels regardless of vineyard and variety. The result is an extremely limited production of an ultra-premium wine.

Have you heard that every year is the same here in the Napa Valley? Don't you believe it! After the drama of the 2008 vintage with its roller coaster of weather-related challenges, we enjoyed a remarkably mild, blissfully uneventful 2009 growing season. That is until “Mother Nature” tossed us a curveball mid-October. We had the heaviest harvest rainfall since the early 80's. This caused some concern, but for the most part, the tough-skinned, loose-clustered varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon weathered the storm. Beautiful Indian summer weather followed the rainy, humid conditions, allowing the grapes to reach optimum maturity. Presence of forward, bright fruit flavors with varietal character and phenological ripeness of the tannins was achieved without excessive ripeness. The corresponding wines have beautiful ripe fruit aromatics and flavors and are impeccably balanced with good acidity and alcohol levels.

Explosive aromas of dark fruits draw you to this generous, richly textured wine. Black cherries, black currants and an exotic array of spices, dried herbs with nuances of cocoa and dusty earth. The wine has incredible density with a broad tannin structure balanced harmoniously with the acid. A long expansive finish completes the experience with an incredible blend of power and finesse. While offering immediate gratification, the patient among us will be rewarded as this wine possess an amazing potential to age.