

WOLF FAMILY VINEYARDS



2006 Cabernet Franc, Napa Valley

Estate Grown and Bottled

Vineyards

The Cabernet Franc is grown on the Wolf Family estate located just south west of St. Helena against the foothills of the Mayacamas Range in Napa Valley. The rolling one acre vineyard was planted in the early 1980's on sparse, rocky, volcanic soils, situated on the slope toward the back of the property. The vines produce very small, intensely flavored berries with low yields.

Vintage

The 2006 vintage resembled the 2005 vintage with a cool, late spring followed by a temperate summer and early fall. October was the saving grace with beautiful, warm, sunny days with no rain. The grapes enjoyed a long hang time and spent the end of ripening with shorter day length producing full and mature tannins and a rich, full-bodied mouth feel. The 2006 vintage produced normal crop size yielding less than 3 tons to the acre. Both clusters and berries were small with intense flavors. The Cabernet Franc was picked on October 30, with the Cabernet Sauvignon coming in five days earlier on October 25, only slightly earlier than in 2005.

Winemaking

The Cabernet Franc was inoculated with yeast after a 4 day cold soak on the skins. Both the Cabernet Franc and the Cabernet Sauvignon were pressed when dry, then aged 16 months in 65% new French oak barrels and 45% one and two year old French oak barrels.

Tasting Notes

The nice October warmth in 2006 provided an increased depth of body and firmer tannins while keeping the nice mid palate so characteristic of this vineyard. The wines have a black fruit aroma with a hint of tobacco and herbal notes. The tannins are big, juicy and well balanced, a difference from the softer style of the 2005 vintage.

Statistics

Wine	14.9% alcohol, 0.59 acidity, 3.81 pH
Blend	95% Cabernet Franc ; 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
Bottling	122 cases bottled in March 2008
Release Date	Spring 2009
Winemaker	Karen Culler
Proprietors	Jane and Doug Wolf